

History

Town Crier weather reports
always 100% accurate P3

Lifestyle

Field of dreams at
Iowa Caucuses P7

Sports

New boys lacrosse
coach, Jeff Keefe SP1



Wilmington Town Crier

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28 PAGES



(photos: BruceHilliard.com)

Wilmington's Chocolate Heaven

The Chocolate Ladies: Deb Consorti, Beverly Soper, Bernice Berglund, Kim "The Chocolate Queen" Lambert, Stephanie Soloman, Amy Wood, Carol Boisvert, Alison Bell, and Dana Burnham busy in the kitchen of the Wilmington Methodist Church creating artful masterpieces with chocolate. The Wilmington & Tewksbury United Methodist Women's annual Chocolate Festival began three years ago when Kim Lambert and Jerelyn Richardson brought the idea to the women's group. It has been a success from the start with all of the members offering baked goods and gathering silent auction items. For \$10 guests can fill a box with a great variety of chocolate treats including cookies, brownies, whoopee pies, and candies and place bids at the silent auction table which always includes tickets to sporting and cultural events, hand quilted items and other crafts. The United Methodist Women use proceeds from the event to fulfill their mission of service to women and children locally and globally. Be sure to look for them again next year!



Ice Rink Committee narrows down sites to four

By HEATHER BURNS
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — On Feb. 3, 2020, the Wilmington Ice Rink and Recreational Facilities Committee met to try to narrow their search for town owned sites that would be a viable home for a new town ice rink.

The committee has been focused on finding several sites that would

work, and after reviewing almost 15 sites, the committee was able to narrow their search to four sites.

The top four sites that were agreed upon by committee members are the old Whitefield School location on Middlesex Avenue, the Recycling Center location on Old Main Street, a section of Grove Avenue across from Silver Lake, and the

Town Park location near the dog park.

Committee members agreed that of these four sites, the Whitefield School location and the Recycling Center location seemed to be the most viable sites for the proposed ice rink.

According to Committee Chairperson Mark DiGiovanni, the committee now needs to debate whether the town will

build and run their own ice rink or lease town land to a private developer to construct and run an ice rink for the town.

However, DiGiovanni feels that most committee members are more interested in a public/private partnership at this point in time.

"We are trying to approach this with thought,

RINK | PAGE 11

O'Mahoney takes out reelection papers

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — Jo-Marie O'Mahoney, one out of two re-election candidates for the Board of Selectmen this year, has taken out papers to run for re-election. O'Mahoney has been on the Board of Selectmen for only one year, in a term that had been vacated by former selectman Ed Loud.

O'Mahoney has been an attorney for 15 years working closely with the Department of Children and Families. She's also a wife to her husband David and a parent to four Wilmington students between the ages of 9 and 17.

She's running for re-election because she wants to keep being involved in what's going

on in town at this engagement level.

"Over the past year there's been a lot of education for me," O'Mahoney said. "It was a huge learning curve to realize that [on the board] you don't have discussion outside of meetings. The time we have together is really valuable and should be spent having thoughtful discussion."

Local government process isn't the only thing she's learned more about in her one-year term.

A few town issues that she's also gained insight on from her position on the Board of Selectmen are the Olin site, the town's trash contract, and all of the town's current litigation. She's hoping that

O'MAHONEY | PAGE 12

For full statement, see page 4 Selectman McCoy not seeking reelection

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — Wilmington Selectman Michael McCoy announced to the Board of Selectmen on Monday night that he will not be seeking re-election to his long-held seat. After serving on the Board of Selectmen for 30 years, the decision not to run for re-election is one that he doesn't share

MCCOY | PAGE 11

Wilmington Public Schools, Wilmington, MA 01887

PRESCHOOL/KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

PLEASE NOTE:

Registration as well as Screenings will be held at

Wilmington High School
159 Church St.

Wilmington, MA 01887

Monday - March 2, 2020

4:00-7:00 PM

Tuesday - March 3, 2020

8:30-2:00 PM

SCREENING DATES

Appointments for screenings will be scheduled at the time of registration

May 27, 28, 29

8:00-2:00

Wilmington Public Schools,
Wilmington, MA 01887

EARLY CHILDHOOD PRESCHOOL/KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Children entering the Wilmington Public Schools, either PK, Kindergarten or First Grade, must register during:

REGISTRATION WILL BE HELD AT
WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, 159 CHURCH ST.

MARCH 2, 2020

4:00 - 7:00 PM

MARCH 3, 2020

8:30 AM - 2:00 PM

If your child reaches age three (3) on or before August 31, 2020 he/she can register for Preschool at this time.

If your child reaches age five (5) on or before August 31, 2020 he/she should register for Kindergarten at this time.

If your child reaches age six (6) on or before August 31, 2020 he/she should register for First Grade at this time, if not already attending a Wilmington Public School Kindergarten program.

**In accordance with School Committee policy, no child will be registered to enter first grade if he/she has not turned six (6) prior to August 31, 2020 even if they have completed a kindergarten program elsewhere.

The following items must be presented at the time of registration:

- I. Original birth certificate with official seal
- II. Medical Information:
 - a. Most recent physical exam information and immunizations record
- III. Proof of Residency (one of the following items)
 - a. Record of recent mortgage payment and/or property tax bill
 - b. Fully signed and executed Lease and/or Rental Agreement (Must be executed by both parties)
 - c. Notarized Landlord/Owner of Property Affidavit (please refer to district's website www.wpsk12.com and click on RESIDENCY POLICY & PROCEDURES to print form to be used "Residency Statement/Affidavit")
 - d. Fully signed and executed Purchase and Sale (P&S) Agreement (provided occupancy date occurs within 30 days of enrollment)
 - e. Section 8 Agreement
- IV. Proof of Occupancy (one of the following items)
 - a. Gas/Oil Bill, Electric Bill, Home (not cell) Telephone Bill, Cable Bill, Water Bill (Note: Bill must be dated within the past 45 days and address and name must be stated)
 - b. Recent bill (other than that stated above dated within the past 45 days showing Wilmington address and name. However, a Residency Statement/Affidavit is REQUIRED with this option. Please refer to district's website www.wpsk12.com and click on RESIDENCY POLICY & PROCEDURES to print form to be used)
 - c. Occupancy Statement/Affidavit must be notarized if a bill can not be provided prior to student's enrollment (please refer to district's website www.wpsk12.com and click on RESIDENCY POLICY & PROCEDURES to print form to be used "Occupancy Statement/Affidavit")
- V. Proof of Identity (one of the following items)
 - a. Valid MA Driver's License
 - b. Valid MA Photo ID Card
 - c. Valid Passport
 - d. Other Government issued Photo ID

NOTE: Parents registering children for Kindergarten will also register at this time for the Early Childhood Kindergarten/Preschool screening. This screening will be conducted in May, further information will be provided at the time of registration. Also, screening is available to three (3) and four (4) year olds whose parents believe that their child has a reasonable likelihood of having any disabilities. Parents of three (3) and four (4) year olds wishing to have their child screened may also schedule an appointment during the above dates at the Boutwell and Wildwood Early Childhood Centers. *ALL OF THE ABOVE AS WELL AS MULTIPLE FORMS AND PRESCHOOL HOURS AND PRICING CAN BE FOUND ON WPS WEBSITE: www.wpsk12.com

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Wilmington Library Notes

by Christina Stewart

Ragtime and Beyond Concert on Thursday, Feb. 20

Upcoming Events

Please register online using our Calendar of Events at www.wilmlibrary.org or by calling (978) 694-2099 (for Adult) or (978) 694-2098 (for Youth). Please note we request registration for programs that are marked *RR. Adult programs are recommended for those 16 years of age and older. Thank you to the Friends of the Library for program funding support!

Poetry Circle *RR

Saturday, Feb. 15, 9:15 - 11:30 a.m.

The poetry circle is a great opportunity to meet other poets and get constructive feedback in a supportive environment. When registering, please provide your email address so you can receive an agenda and any prep materials in advance. Led by local writing enthusiast, Barbara Alevras.

Current Affairs

Discussion Group *RR

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 7 p.m.
This group is for all who would like to broaden their knowledge of current national and international affairs. You will have the opportunity to discuss topical events and learn from others. Led by facilitator Dan Hall.

Ragtime and Beyond Concert *RR

Thursday, Feb. 20, 2:30 p.m.
Pianist/Composer Deborah Wyndham will present a variety of music on the piano in this program with ragtime music as the highlight. Ragtime, whose initial era of popularity began in the early 1890s and ended around 1915, is known as our nation's first American "pop" music. This program includes the original works of Scott Joplin and other ragtime composers plus boogie woogie, novelty rags and more.

Novel Ideas

Book Group *RR

Thursday, Feb. 20, 7 p.m.
Featured Book: All the Ugly & Wonderful Things by Bryn Greenwood.
Join Library Associate Lisa Crispin to discuss this book about "two unlikely people and the hard-won relationship that elevates them above the Midwestern meth lab backdrop of their lives."

Cookin' the Books *RR

Monday, Feb. 24, 12 p.m.
Featured Cookbook: Tartine All Day by Alison Roman

If you love to cook and enjoy talking about food

and sharing recipes then this group is for you. Pick up a copy of the cookbook (or find a recipe from the book online), register on the library events calendar at wilmlibrary.org and record your recipe. Bring your dish to the meeting and enjoy sampling everyone's dishes!

Creative Writing

Skill Group *RR

Tuesday, Feb. 25, 7 p.m.
Learn and apply creative writing tips, tools, and techniques shared by published authors and other writing experts. Open to all who want to improve their creative writing skills and get their work published. Led by local writing enthusiast Barbara Alevras.

Well Read Wednesday

Book Club *RR

Wednesday, Feb. 26, 10 a.m.

Featured Book: Madame Fourcade's Secret War by Lynne Olson

Join Marketing Librarian Danielle Ward to discuss this book about the daring young woman who led France's largest spy network against Hitler.

Kids & Teen Events

Drop-In Baby Times

Saturday, Feb. 15, 9:30 a.m.

Babies and their caregivers will enjoy this fun storytime that includes rhymes, songs, books, scarves, shakers, bubbles and more. Infants through 24 months

Stories and Sweets

Saturday, Feb. 15, 10:30 a.m.

Start your Saturday morning with great stories (and songs and rhymes) and a few sweet treats at this special family storytime. Ages 2-5 and one or more adults.

Dungeons & Dragons

*RR

Saturday, Feb. 15, 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Interested in finding out more about this fantasy tabletop role-playing game, or looking for a group to play with? Join DM Alex for a campaign! Grades 6-8

Little Movers *RR

Tuesday, Feb. 18, 10 a.m.

Let's move! Join us for a morning of singing, dancing, and moving around! Ages 1-2

All You Can Read Buffet

*RR

Tuesday, Feb. 18, 1 - 5 p.m.

This popular event is back! Come to this marathon read and eat-in. Bring something comfortable to lounge upon and read away. Munch on yummy snacks, enjoy a hot chocolate topping bar, and finish with a pizza party. Grades 4-8

Art After Dark:

Paint Like Bob Ross

*RR

Tuesday, Feb. 18, 6:30 -

8:30 p.m.

Channel the zen painting mastery of Bob Ross and create a serene scene on canvas with acrylics with Mr. Surette of Shady Lane Art Studio. Grades 6-12

Learn to Play

the Ukulele *RR

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Want to try an instrument that is fun and easy to play? Join Julie Stepanek as she shows the fundamentals of ukulele playing. You'll learn how to tune, strum and read chords. After a short lesson, you'll be able to play songs. No experience necessary. Bring your own ukulele or borrow one of hers. Grades 4+

Once Upon a Yoga Mat

*RR

Thursday, Feb. 20, 10 a.m.

Young children will gently stretch their bodies and their imagination with this exciting, dramatic yoga class presented by Cindi Haggerty. Where poses become stories and stretching becomes adventure! Ages 3-6

Story Theatre

with Cindi

Thursday, Feb. 20, 11 a.m.

Perform a show led through guided storytelling by drama coach Cindi Haggerty! Super fun and no pressure! Grades 1-5

Improv with

Cindi Haggerty:

Star Struck *RR

Thursday, Feb. 20, 12 p.m.

If you're looking for an acting workshop with laughter, fun, and improv, this one's for you! We'll battle it out with acting

challenges and comedic adventures. You're perfectly cast for the starring role in your own life, now's your chance to shine! Costumes, props, and scripts provided. Grades 6-12

First Look Book Group

Thursday, Feb. 20, 2:30 p.m.

Want to discover the next big thing in YA lit? First Look Book Group is for you! Hang out with other teen fiction aficionados, eat snacks, and read titles hot off the presses. Choose a book to keep at every meeting! Grades 6-12

MCBA Book Club and Pizza!

Friday, Feb. 21, 12 p.m.

The Vanderbeekers of 14th Street by Karina Glaser

Join this book club to read books nominated for the Massachusetts Children's Book Award so that you can vote along with other kids all across Massachusetts for the year's best book. At each meeting we will discuss the book, eat a snack and do a fun activity. Pick up a copy of the book at the library. Grades 4-6

Anime & Manga Meetup

*RR

Friday, Feb. 21, 2:30 p.m.

AMM is for fans of Japanese films and comics; we'll watch anime, talk manga, and have snacks! Grades 6-12

Holiday Hours

The library will be closed on Monday, Feb. 17 in observance of President's Day.

Rufo named to Dean's List at Sacred Heart University

FAIRFIELD, CT — The Dean's List is an academic achievement honor awarded to students who achieved a semester GPA

of 3.6 or higher on a 4.0 scale, completed a minimum of three courses for a letter grade and received a grade of C or higher in all courses.

Nicolas Rufo, of Wilmington, is a junior majoring in Sports Management in the Jack Welch College of Business and Technology at Sacred Heart University. He is the son of John A. and Susan M. Rufo, and the brother of John G. Rufo.

Rufo is a 2017 graduate of Malden Catholic High School.

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TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS: RECORDKEEPING FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

Small business owners should keep good records. This applies to all businesses, whether they have a couple dozen employees or just a few. Whether they install software or make soft-serve, cut hair or cut lawns. Keeping good records is an important part of running a successful business. The following will help business owners understand the ins and outs of good recordkeeping.

Why should business owners keep records? Good records will help them monitor the progress of their business; prepare financial statements; identify income sources; keep track of expenses; and prepare tax returns and support items reported on tax returns.

What kinds of records should owners keep? Small business owners may choose any recordkeeping system that fits their business. They should choose one that clearly shows income and expenses. Except in a few cases, the law does not require special kinds of records.

How long should businesses keep records? How long a document should be kept depends on several factors. These factors include the action, expense and event recorded in the document. The IRS generally suggests taxpayers keep records for three years.

How should businesses record transactions? A good recordkeeping system includes a summary of all business transactions. These are usually kept in books called journals and ledgers, which business owners can buy at an office supply store. All requirements that apply to hard copy books and records also apply to electronic business records.

How long should businesses keep employment tax records? Business owners should keep all records of employment taxes for at least four years.

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Donations from the Heart Food Drive



▲ WCTV Donations from the Heart Food Drive to benefit the Wilmington Food Pantry. Kids from the WCTV Youth Program staffed the donation tables at Market Basket Saturday and greeted customers at the door with item suggestions for donation. (photo: BruceHilliard.com)

Ryan named to President's List at Champlain College

BURLINGTON, VT — Julia Ryan of Wilmington has been named to the Champlain College President's List for the Fall 2019 semester.

Students on the President's List have achieved a grade point average of 4.0 or higher during the semester.

Founded in 1878, Champlain College is a small, not-for-profit, private college in Burlington, Ver-

mont, with additional campuses in Montreal, Canada, and Dublin, Ireland. Champlain offers a traditional undergraduate experience from its beautiful campus overlooking Lake Champlain, and more than 90 residential undergraduate and online undergraduate and graduate degree programs and certificates.

Champlain's distinctive

career-driven approach to higher education embodies the notion that true learning occurs when information and experience come together to create knowledge.

Champlain College is included in the Princeton Review's The Best 385 Colleges: 2020 Edition. It was named a "Most Innovative School" (for the fifth year in a row), ranked among the top 100

Regional Universities in the North, and is featured as "One of the Best Undergraduate Teaching Programs" and a "Best Value School" by U.S. News & World Report.

Champlain is also a 2020 College of Distinction. For more information, visit champlain.edu. For the latest news, visit view.champlain.edu.

News and Notes from WCTV

By SHAUN NEVILLE WCTV Executive Director

Wilmington's generosity was on display again this past weekend during the WCTV Donations from the Heart Food Drive.

Members of our youth program handed out flyers and collected donations at Market Basket for four hours on Saturday. They filled more than a dozen carriages with food, all of it headed to the Wilmington Food Pantry for your neighbors in need.

This is an annual event for WCTV, timed right around Valentine's Day. The outpouring of support is always great to see. Special thanks to the

members of our Saturday Youth Program who came out and helped.

...

Applications are now being accepted for the WCTV Scholarship. Scholarships are awarded to any graduating student who lives in Wilmington and is planning on attending college next fall. You do not need to be a Wilmington High School student to be eligible. Over the past few years, students from Shawheen Tech and private schools have received a scholarship.

Funds are set aside each year as part of WCTV's Operational Budget. The Board of Directors Schol-

arship Committee selects the winners. Students are eligible for awards up to \$1,500.

While not a requirement of the application, special consideration is given to students pursuing a communications, graphic design, public relations or journalism degree. Students who have had experience with WCTV are also strongly encouraged to apply.

The deadline to apply is May 1. Recipients will be notified towards the end of the school year. Head to wctv.org/scholarship to learn more or to apply.

...

Wilmington Public Schools are seeking a new

athletic director and WCTV was able to record last week's community forums held with the three finalists.

These sessions lasted about 30 minutes each and included questions from students, parents and athletic supporters.

You can watch those events at wctv.org/vod. After an athletic director is chosen, it might be good to revisit their event to learn more about their background and goals for high school athletes.

This is another example of how WCTV works with the School Department on media needs and community involvement.

History:

Town Crier weather reports were always 100% accurate

By LARZ F. NEILSON

In the early years of the *Town Crier*, Capt. Larz Neilson had one of the most accurate weather columns around. Of course, he always worked in the past tense, having quite a bit of fun with what could for some be a depressing subject.

Winter weather was more important then for a few reasons, not to deny its importance today. Reason number one would be skating. Wilmington had an extremely successful skating club, with speed-skating competitions on a rink behind the old South School on Chestnut Street. No artificial ice, no Zamboni.

Reason number two: cars. Most cars had six-volt electrical systems back then. 12-volt systems had just been incorporated in the 1955 models, and two years later, there were

still plenty of sixes.

Six-volt batteries were OK in warm weather, but when the temperature plunged, the garage men in town were very busy. Another factor: no vehicles had four-wheel drive, except for the town's Civil Defense panel truck or anyone with a Jeep.

December 1956 ended with a cold spell, and January 1957 had a rather warm start. Then on Jan. 6, an arctic blast arrived in New England.

On Jan. 17, Larz wrote, "Winter began this season on the Sixth of January. It was at this time that Jack Frost really began to reach forth with his icy tentacles and let the people know of his existence. Since then we have had 17-1/2 inches of snow."

Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 14-15 were the coldest days in two years. Not content to just look out the

window at the thermometer, Larz checked the temperature at Jenk's Bridge, the low point in town, both for elevation and temperature. It was 27 below.

He had a few people who would call with temperature readings. Mrs. Ellen Cole of Concord Street lived in a cold pocket. Just to be sure she wasn't getting a false reading, she had two thermometers. She reported a reading of minus 36.

It was so cold that the North Wilmington Post Office closed for three hours, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Roseanne Babine had to warm up the mail over the heating stove before she could sort it. And that was three feet over the floor in the middle of the room. 10 feet from the stove, it was 28 degrees. At floor level in the corners, it was below zero.

It was so cold that the

trains started late, just as did many people who depend on the family car for transportation. On West Street, nobody was able to start their cars on Monday morning.

"In fact, it was cold enough to make a fellow want to live to be a grandfather, just so he can boast about it to his grandchildren," Larz wrote.

That month disproved the old saying, "too cold to snow." Many people were wondering what they would do with all the snow, and were having a hard time shoveling through the piles left by the snowplows at the side of the road.

The salt that the highway department spread during the storm did little to clear the roads. The ice on the roads was so solid that it just created ruts, with many accidents resulting, none serious.

The good news was that

the sledding was great. Down at the Town Park, there were kids on sleds, saucers and an old hood. A few of the Parker boys came down with the hood off an old car, which they were using as a toboggan. The *Town Crier* had a picture of Jack and Randy Walden sledding, with their father Howard and brother Lance watching. Other pictures showed Red Eaton clearing snow at the North Wilmington depot with his new snowblower, and Eddie Sargent with a portable mailbox which he stuck in the snowbank.

The cold snap broke as quickly as it had arrived. On Jan. 31, Larz reported that Sunday had dawned with a temperature of minus 6, but by Wednesday, it had climbed to 53 degrees. There was no snow left, and after .4 inches of rain on Tuesday, it looked

as if the skating club's exhibition on Saturday would have to be called off. But then the temperature went down to 17 and 18 degrees on Thursday and Friday. It looked as if they would have perfect ice for the exhibition.

Club officials, though, had forgotten they had given the hockey team permission to practice on the rink on Friday afternoon. Volunteers set to work with snow shovels and a hose, and by Saturday morning, the rink had a suitable surface.

The winter's icy blast was broken, though, and February was a mild month.

Larz wrote, "It was warmish last week, a very pleasant week, although the Weather Moguls from the TV stations kept up a series of dire predictions with storms and snow galore — hardly any of which materialized."



Cub Scout Pack 126, meeting at St. Thomas of Villanova Church in Wilmington, held its annual Pinewood Derby on Sunday, Feb. 9 at Villanova Hall. The scouts raced cars that they designed and built themselves. Winners advance to the District Pinewood Derby to race against other packs in the area.

(Courtesy photo)

North Street School honor roll and principal's list

North Street School
School Year 2019-2020
Term 2

Principal's List

Jonan Baziwe
Yash Bhide
Sophia Campbell
Jenna Cole
Sofia Craig
Alia Dunac
Jorden Eloi
Margaret Flaherty
William Judge
Caroline Kaplan
Katrina Lepage
Brody Lyons
Anaka Narayanan
Ava Rafferty
Delaney Salois
William Sullivan

Alaina Tarara

North Street School
School Year 2019-2020
Term 2

Honor Roll

Ellie Allard
Beckett Anderson
Abigail Atherton
Nicolo Auriti
Nevaeh Austin
Brady Babbitt
Mia Bettencourt
Paige Bickford
Keira Boggett
Desmond Bone
Nolan Borges
Michael Brinquinho
Ava Buczynski
Lila Chambers

Carlo Desisto

Stefanie Dupuis
Brayden Duran
Eric Durgin
Madelyn Estepe
Max Gagnon
Dylan Ghali
Oliver Greene
Bella Hardy
Maxwell Hines
Zane Horgan
Addison Hyslop
Peyton Inogna
Ariana Iraola
Olivia Jensen
Jeffrey Johnson
Mark Johnson
Joseph Kane
Amanda Laycox
Vasilios Lellos-Wilson
Jack Leone

Sofia Lopez

Haylie Martel
William Nickerson
Kai Parsons
Emily Pasquariello
Jacob Pimentel
Richany Prak
Grace Ryan
Tyler Smith
Samuel Sodre
Rachel Steele
Ella Toohey
Taya Torra
Nathan Travers
Timothy Tuttle
Henry Vaillancourt
Daniel Vincent
Gavyn Welch
Nathan Wiggin
Daniel Willey
Molly Witts

Jones earns Doctor of Education degree

WILMINGTON — Kristen Jones of Abundant Life Christian School and Learning Center received her Doctor of Education degree in Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment from The Richard W. Riley College of Education and Leadership of Walden University.

The university held its semi-annual commencement ceremony at the

Tampa Convention Center in Tampa on Jan. 18. Dr. Kristen Jones is the head administrator of the Abundant Life Christian School and Learning Center. She has been the leader of the Abundant Life Christian School (ALCS) since June 2016.

Prior to her leadership at ALCS, Jones was the Director of Academic Affairs at South Shore Christian

Academy, Weymouth and Principal at The Charles Finney School, Rochester, NY serving over 17 years in Christian education as a teacher and an administrator.

Abundant Life Christian School and Learning Center is centrally located in Wilmington right across the street from the Town Common on Route 62. ALCS has been Growing

Kids God's Way since 1982; currently enrolling for our 2020/2021 school year. Please visit us at 173 Church St., Wilmington. Call 978-657-8710 for a tour.

Book Stew Review

'Heart of Junk' by Luke Geddes

By EILEEN MACDOUGALL

This comic novel is set in Fannie Flagg Fried Green Tomatoes-ville, plus riotous snark.

The Heart of America junktique mall in Wichita is going under, but salvation may be around the corner with the anticipated arrival of Mark and Grant from the hit TV show Pickin' Fortunes.

For a quiet Midwestern city, there's a lot going on here: a missing eight-year old, horrible parents and tiresome

marriages, insane record collectors, a headless MC Hammer figurine, and a dealer whose Barbie collection holds sway over her every waking minute.

The characters, albeit mostly pitiful, are well-developed and there are some excellent plot twists on the way to a most satisfying ending.

Quote: "He missed Boston, with its openly rude citizens, always crowded sidewalks, and a vibrant arts culture widely available for him to ignore."

~For Your Information~

NEW MAILBOX: There is a US Postal Service mailbox now located on Hospital Road next to the Tewksbury Public Library.



RE/MAX
Encore

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Letters to the editor

Boyages would be great representative for district

To the editor:
I saw a note in the *Lowell Sun* recently where State Representative David Robertson called his Republican challenger, Alec DiFruscia, "an out of town opponent." That struck because I've known Alec since he was a kid, and I even coached him in Tewksbury Youth Basketball. For someone to imply that Alec isn't from here is misleading and false.

What I can tell you about Alec is that he's smart, focused and committed to doing what's right for the people of Tewksbury and Wilmington. His platform is about fighting for working families — including holding the line on tax hikes, standing up for our

local small businesses, and working to hold state government accountable.

When I coached Alec, what really stood out is he would always give you everything he had — every game and every practice — a quality that will benefit all of us when he's at the State House.

Listen carefully to what he has to say about the issues that affect all of us. I think you'll agree that he gets it and would be a great representative for our district. I'm proud to support Alec DiFruscia for State Representative this November and hope that you will too.

Scott Boyages
Tewksbury

Police Athletic League to host comedy fundraiser

To the editor,
The Tewksbury Police Athletic League, along with All Pro Productions, Inc., will be conducting a fundraiser over the next several weeks for a benefit Comedy Show. The Comedy show will be held at the Tewksbury Country club on Thursday June 4, 2020 7:30 p.m.

In order to raise money for the Police Athletic League, local business and

residents will be called for donations, and will be offered a chance to buy tickets and/or advertising space in the event Playbill.

If you have any questions about this fundraiser call the Tewksbury Police Athletic League directly at (978) 836-9220.

Sincerely,
The Tewksbury Police Athletic League

McCoy announces he won't seek reelection after 30 years as selectman

(Eds. note: the following announcement was made at the most recent Board of Selectmen meeting)

I have an announcement to make tonight. Historically, when I have been up for reelection and nomination papers usually became available by Jan. 2, religiously I've gone down to the town hall, pulled my nomination papers, gathered all the required signatures and returned the papers within a few days. I'm usually the first to take out the papers and the first to return them. This year is different.

Tonight, I am officially announcing that I will not be seeking reelection to the Wilmington Board of Selectmen. After I won my last election three years ago, I had a long talk with my wife and we agreed that it would be my last term. She is the only person on the planet that knew this.

About eight months ago when I volunteered to join the hockey rink committee, individuals on Facebook accused me of joining this committee only because I had an election coming up and I wanted to get votes. This is not true.

All I wanted to do, and I stated it back then, that I just want to help the kids in our community. Just the other day, individuals on Facebook were claiming that I only want to build a senior center because "he's up for reelection and he wants votes." Again, not true.

I will not be endorsing anyone. I don't have a candidate ready to emerge right after I make this announcement. I know I will be surprising a hell of a lot of people but it's a decision I made with my wife three years ago. Any of you who know me, know I keep my word. Always.

This has been a great ride. I can see my mark all over town. I've given 33 years of my adult life to the Town of Wilmington; 30 of those years as your selectman. When I owned and operated my restaurant, I gave it 31 years and had a track record of success. In essence, I gave more time to my town and I have no regrets.

In life I realize that we're going to be dead a lot longer than we will ever be alive. We need to learn to agree to disagree and just because we have different opinions doesn't mean we need to hate each other. Everyone, and I mean EVERYONE, can learn to get along and move forward if they so choose.

Over the span of my service to the town as your selectman, I've served through five different decades. I've made more friends than enemies over my political career and to quote Winston Churchill "You have enemies? Good. That means you've stood up for something, sometime in your life."

Michael McCoy

Check mailing scam hits local communities

By PAUL J. ANDREWS
andrews@massupt.org
Mass. Ass'n. of School Superintendents
Member of Board of Winchester Hospital

Okay, let me get started with a few rage issues coming from this normally placid writer, as I touch on a few issues.

First, what is this ridiculous behavior at the State of the Union message in Washington this past Tuesday night, when the House Speaker offers a handshake to the President as he comes to the podium to make a presentation and he turns around and ignores her, followed by the Speaker standing there on the rostrum tearing up his speech, as he is just leaving the rostrum.

Does this look like two kids in a sandbox rather than in the State of the Union presentation before Congress? Wow, are we in trouble when common courtesy is the culture ignored in DC. Remember the old saying "two wrongs don't make a right." This is absolutely disgusting behavior.

Iowa caucus

What is this caucus about in Iowa? Watching

folks gathering in athletic arenas and running from one side to the other, as votes are taken and scores posted like you were in a meeting of a local community citizens group. Then to find out after this torture that the tally of the final votes was not available until the next day because of some kind of a computer error!

Please tell me this cannot continue but the National Chairman of the Democratic Party commented just before I wrote this column that you have to get a vote of the legislature in Iowa, first to change from a caucus to a regular normal primary.

They need to meet fast, so all do not forget what they just went through in the caucus that was a disaster. I can see many folks shaking their heads and saying, "this is ridiculous."

Somewhere, we seem to have lost "common sense" in both of these areas and sorry that I am making a big deal out of "a very big deal" for current and future elections.

Check mail scams

Last week, I had the opportunity to chase down an error I thought occurred

on a business checking account to find what I never knew existed. While over the years some larger banks mail their customers blank checks as part of a promotional component of the bank's effort for added business. For years, many people have received these checks and either used them, torn them up or shredded them.

Well, what I never realized is that often these checks disappear from the person being sent the checks in a way I still do not understand and the checks used by someone else, who changes the name and makes the checks out to themselves. Guess what, a check that was being mailed to you ends up as cash for a scam artist to their benefit. I think I made this example simple and was told by two bank officials you could do one of three or four things: request the bank not send you these complimentary blank checks, use on-line banking only if you trust that system, carefully review all bank statements and report any apparent errors to your bank.

The Associated Press also, in addition to my

experience, commented on "mail collection box thieves" with culprits using glue and a string to fish mail out of mailboxes, use chemicals to rewrite checks to themselves, cash them in and "use the bank information they acquired to forge more checks" as detailed by Wellesley Detective Mark D'Innocenzo.

JUST A NOTE: Sorry for my rants this week but hope they were informative as my Morning Pulse extractions that follow: Tumbling mortgage rates spark a refinancing application stampede; IRS says 31 percent of its workers to retire in five years; Ford to drive \$600 million to \$800 million into international pension plans; Artificial intelligence finds drug that could fight Wuhan coronavirus; Key lawmaker says pension funding a top House priority; US consumer spending slows as overall economy cools; Be prepared, don't be a victim of tax ID theft (here we go again) and Virus worries wipe \$420 billion off China's stock market.

Feel free to e-mail me at andrews@massupt.org

Inaugural Kiwanis Club KISS Day a big success

To the editor:

A brisk wind and temps in the 20's could not deter the loving spirit of the Kiwanis Club of Wilmington and its volunteers this past Saturday morning. Some standing outside for 4-5 hours at multiple town stores and coffee shops fundraising for a tremendous cause, these winter warriors had a singular mission: share a little love around the Valentine's Day holiday and reward contributors with a "kiss" (or two) — Hershey's Kiss that is.

The inaugural Kiwanis Club of Wilmington's town wide KISS Day was a tremendous success. Hundreds of members of the community contributed change, ones, fives, 10s and even 20s to help fund multiple scholarships that will be awarded to worthy students planning on attending colleges and trade schools in the fall.

This project will surely be a staple in the club's array of annual fundraising initiatives. Other primary initiatives include the annual Grand Raffle and the coordination of the 4th of July Supplement in the *Town Crier*.

Kiwanis is an international service organization that focuses on children's charities. The Wilmington Club has been supporting the children of our town for more than 50 years. The club is always looking to increase its membership and projects like the KISS Day event provide an opportunity to meet potential new members.

We are small in head count but our impact is quite robust. In the last few years we have been able to award scholarships to students that are attending Assumption, UMass Lowell, UMass Amherst,

Bryant, Westfield State, Salem State, Boston College, and Merrimack.

Annually Kiwanis distributes hundreds of hot dogs at the town Little League Opening Day Ceremonies and at the Kids PAN Mass Challenge bike ride.

On behalf of the members of the Kiwanis Club of Wilmington, I want to thank all who made our event a success. Thank you to our corporate sponsors including Market Basket, Align Credit Union, Team Blue ERA Key Realty, Rep. Dave Robertson, Heav'nly Donuts, West Real Estate, Strive Fitness, Winbrook Promotional, TJ's Barber Shop, Lucci's Market, Susan's Kitchen, and Invest in Others Charitable Foundation, that contributed so generously that 100 percent of the day of contributions from community members went directly to the scholarship fund.

Thank you to Market Basket, Heav'nly Donuts, Dunkin' next to Rocco's, Elia's and Lucci's for allowing Kiwanians and volunteers to stand outside their storefronts soliciting support.

Thank you to all the Wilmington High School students and Wilmington Youth Group Members that volunteered to help man the doors.

And special thanks to the *Town Crier*, The Wilmington Apple and the Wilmington Tewksbury Chamber of Commerce for the publicity and spreading the word on social media.

With sincere appreciation,
Greg Maynard
President
Kiwanis Club of Wilmington

Nine students make honor roll at Malden Catholic

MALDEN — Malden Catholic High School students have completed the coursework for the second quarter for the 2019-20 academic year. Malden Catholic divides honors into three levels: Headmaster's List, First Honors and Second Honors.

Headmaster's List — Scores of 90 and above in all classes

First Honors — Scores of 85 and above in all classes

Second Honors — Scores of 80 and above in all classes

• Marjorie Welton, a grade 9 student, at Malden Catholic and Tewksbury resident achieved Second Honors.

Other honors students, from Wilmington, were:

HEADMASTER'S LIST
• Aaron Babu — Grade 11
• Sean Kelley — Grade 12
• Adriana Rice — Grade 10

First Honors
• Lorianne Luongo — Grade 9
• Jack Munro — Grade 10

Second Honors
• Sarah Cirame — Grade 10
• Abigail Frye — Grade 10
• Daniel Luongo — Grade 11

About Malden Catholic High School
Founded in 1932, Malden Catholic offers a unique Codivisional model among Catholic schools in the greater Boston area. Codivisional education is an educational model that offers children the best of both worlds, rigorous single-gender academics during the day and integrated social and extracurricular opportunities after school.

With 565 students currently enrolled in the private, Xaverian-inspired educational institution, Malden Catholic boasts a proud history of academic excellence and leadership. It has graduated a Nobel Laureate, a U.S. Senator, business leaders, and students who have gone on to attend Harvard, Cornell, Columbia, the University of Chicago and Georgetown in recent years.

Want your opinion heard?

We LOVE your letters!
Send Letters to the Editor to:
office@yourtowncrier.com.

All submissions must be accompanied by full name, address, and daytime contact information for verification purposes.
Letters must be e-mailed by noon on Monday in order for consideration the same week's edition.

~Recycling Tip of the Week~

If you have aluminum soda, seltzer or beer cans that do not have the nickel deposit on them, they can be recycled by the pound at Lowell Bottle and Can Return on Tanner Street in Lowell, right off the Lowell Connector at Plain Street. They also take can tabs by the pound and will

recycle your Massachusetts deposit cans as well.

When cleaning, use biodegradable products wherever possible. Never pour mop or cleaning water into a stream, storm drain, or sump where it will flow untreated into local waterways.

OBITUARIES

Barbara J. (Talbot) Groom

Accomplished oil painter, artist

Barbara J. (Talbot) Groom, age 81, of Tewksbury, passed away peacefully with her family by her side on Saturday, Feb. 8, 2020.

Barbara was born on May 17, 1938 in Boston. She was the daughter of the late William and Eleanor (Hibbard) Talbot, Jr. Barbara was raised and educated in Malden. She moved to Tewksbury in 1971 with her husband and two children.

Barbara loved her years working as a nursery school teacher in Wilmington. She later worked as an administrative assistant at Textron Systems in Wilmington.

Barbara was an accomplished artist, creating oil paintings and other artwork that were displayed in various galleries and seaside shops along the New England coast. She won many awards in local art shows. Barbara also had a passion for genealogy, and she spent many hours tracing her roots back through time.

Barbara's energy and

adventurous spirit took her all over the country throughout the years. She enjoyed horseback riding through the Grand Tetons in her 50's, whitewater rafting the Grand Canyon in her 60's and taking her granddaughters on intergenerational trips to the southwest or the northern plains in her 70's.

In her 80's, one could still find Barbara at various dances and Zumba classes in the local area. Barbara was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and friend. She will be missed by her family.

Barbara was the beloved wife of 55 years of the late Francis Groom, Jr., devoted mother of Paula Morris & her husband James of Londonderry, NH and Francis Groom, III of Tewksbury, loving "Grammy" of Kimberly Morris of White River Junction, VT and Gabrielle Morris of Londonderry, NH, cherished daughter of the late William and Eleanor (Hibbard) Talbot, Jr., dear sister of the late Patricia Huber and William R.



Talbot, III.

Family and friends gathered for a Funeral Service at the Nichols Funeral Home, Inc., 187 Middlesex Ave., (Rt. 62), Wilmington on Wednesday, Feb. 12 at 11 a.m. Interment will follow in Tewksbury Cemetery, Tewksbury. Visiting hours were held at the Funeral Home on Tuesday, Feb. 11 from 4 - 8 p.m.

Memorial donations in Barbara's memory may be made to MSPCA, Nevins Farm, 400 Broadway, Methuen, MA 01844.

www.nicholsfuneralhome.com

Richard W. Vayo

Served in the Army during Korean War

Richard W. Vayo, age 86, a long-time resident of Wilmington, passed away peacefully on Feb. 6, 2020.

Richard was born on Aug. 29, 1933, in Winchester; he was the dear son of the late William and Evelyn (LeSage) Vayo. Richard grew up in Stoneham and was a graduate of Stoneham High School with the Class of 1950.

Following high school, Richard enlisted in the United States Army Reserves where he served for 24 months before being called to active duty on June 22, 1953, during the Korean War.

Richard entered as rank of Private First Class and was part of the 1815 76th Ord. Stock Control Detail where he trained as a specialist. During his active service, Richard earned the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal and the National Defense Service Medal; he was honorably discharged with the rank of Corporal on June 15, 1955, from Camp Kilmer in New Jersey and returned home to his family.

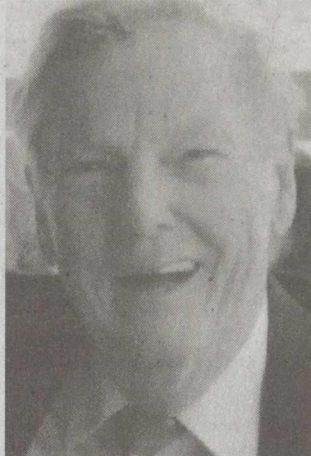
When he returned home from the service, Richard decided to continue his education and attended Malden Business School

where he met the "love of his life" Patricia Gardner. The couple hit it off right away and were married on June 29, 1957.

Richard had a thirst for knowledge and was a whiz at math so he enrolled in Bentley College in Waltham where he earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in accounting. Richard worked for many years as a tax accountant for the J. W. Greers Company and was quite successful throughout his career.

Richard and Pat made their home in Wilmington over 50 years ago and raised four wonderful daughters. Richard was a devoted husband, wonderful father and a proud "Papa" to his grandchildren and great-granddaughter. In his spare time he enjoyed putting in his yard, painting just about anything; houses, rooms, sheds etc., golfing and travelling the world with his wife, family and friends.

Richard was the beloved husband of Patricia (Gardner) Vayo, devoted father of Cheryl Johnson and her husband Michael of Tyngsboro, Brenda Nickerson and her husband Michael of Penfield, NY, Anne Gaudette and her husband Steve of Tewksbury and Kathleen Thurston and her husband Joe of Wilming-



ton.

Loving "Papa" of Leeanne, Jimmy, Diantha, Hannah, Victoria, Jorge, Amanda, Kaytlin and great-granddaughter Adaline.

Dear brother of the late Paul Vayo and Robert Vayo.

Family and friends gathered for a Service at the Nichols Funeral Home, 187 Middlesex Ave. (Rt. 62), Wilmington, on Monday, Feb. 10 at 11:30 a.m. Interment with Military Honors followed in Wildwood Cemetery, Wilmington. Visiting Hours were held at the Funeral Home on Sunday, Feb. 9 from 2 - 4 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Richard's memory may be made to the Visiting Nurse and Community Care, 37 Broadway Suite 2, Arlington, MA 02474.



Back row from left: Linda Rose, Jean Osborne, Carol Hayes, Deb Cioffi, Dawn Sampson, Kathy Palfey, Christine Brungardt, Front row from left: Joan Green, Joanne Barber, and Rosemary Koch. (Courtesy photo)

North Parish Quilt Guild looking for members

NORTH READING — North Parish Quilt Guild includes approximately 100 men and women (yes, there are male quilters!) and meets on the second Wednesday of each month at the Union Congregational Church, 148 Haverhill St., North Reading at 7 p.m. The group is currently open to new members and they hope that quilters may be interested in the charity work being done at North Parish as well as the upcoming April Quilt Show.

Each monthly meeting consists of various members who are participating in their very own block of month program, raffles of sewing related items, and info on various charity projects. Last year, North Parish delivered quilts to

Paul Newman's Hole in the wall Camp for terminally ill children, Yawkey Way, Veterans Groups, etc.

These quilts are made by individual members at their homes as well as at Guild sponsored Charity Days. Most recently, a charity sew day was held in Danvers and attended by a number of members. They spent the entire day working on quilts to be donated to our various charities.

At our next meeting on Feb. 12, Adele Scott will be the guest speaker and provide her expertise on using your domestic sewing machine to do free motion quilting. For many experienced sewers, this is a skill they have yet to practice so they are excited to

have Adele with them.

Come join the North Parish team for a night, be inspired and learn from Adele who will share examples of her quilts. Guests are welcome at each meeting for an admission fee of \$5.

"Please join us at our next meeting and decide for yourself if this is a group you can benefit from."

Great night out, lots of socializing as well as learning. If you find yourself interested in a membership, forms will be available to you at the entrance. Also, North Parish is currently finalizing plans for an April Quilt Show; great time to get involved — "we'd love to include your quilts in our show!"

Love your library month

The Friends of the Tewksbury Library are hosting a heart FUND-raiser for LOVE YOUR LIBRARY MONTH.

Through the month of February for a \$1 donation the staff at the library's front desk will give you a colored paper

heart. Inside the heart, write, draw, embellish: What you love about the Tewksbury Library. All hearts will be posted in the library's lobby for public viewing. Multiple hearts encouraged!

All donated dollars will benefit the Friends of

the Tewksbury Library through sponsorship of all the adult, teen, and children's programs at the library. Stop by the library today and declare your love!

<https://www.friendst-library.org/>

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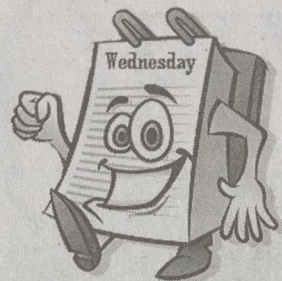
and

Middlesex East Supplement

Please contact Bruce Hilliard

617-939-6870

bruce@yourtowncrier.com anytime!



Community Calendar

send your item to:
Calendar@YourTownCrier.com

Wilmington Calendar:

'Let's Mingle' this (day after) Valentine's Day

Lisa's "Let's Mingle" Valentine Party
Saturday, Feb. 15 at 8 p.m.
Knights of Columbus Hall, 2806 Main St. in Tewksbury
Fun, food, a cash bar, and live music will be provided by Moneykat. Dance the night away and meet someone new. Entrance is \$20 at the door. For more information, call 978-658-6342.

Ipswich River Community Chorus
Mondays from 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Aldersgate Church, 235 Park St. in North Reading
Do you like to sing? Join the Ipswich River Community Chorus for their upcoming winter/spring season! There are no auditions, no experience is necessary, and they provide practice CDs for all members. Rehearsals start at 7:30 p.m. New members are welcome through Feb. 3! For more information, check them out on Facebook or visit IpswichRiverChorus.org.

Knights of Columbus Cribbage
Mondays through March 2020 from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Wilmington Knights of Columbus, 112 Middlesex Ave.

The Wilmington Knights of Columbus is hosting Cribbage games every Monday night through the end of March 2020. The games are open to the general public (over 21) and begin promptly at 7 p.m. and generally finish up around 9 p.m. All skill levels are welcome. There is a small entrance fee and cash prizes are awarded every week. The club has wide screen TVs so that you can keep track of your favorite teams. A cash bar is available for those who would like refreshment. The building is located behind St. Thomas church and can be reached by the small access road behind the church parking lot. Access to the building is through the entrance at the rear of the parking lot. If you have any questions, please call Bob at 978-851-4985. If he does not answer the phone, please leave a message and he will get back to you.

Trivia Night
Friday, April 3 at 7 p.m.
Knights of Columbus main banquet hall, 112 Middlesex Ave.
The Knights of Columbus and Wilmington Band Parents are hosting a trivia night. Doors open at 7

p.m. and trivia starts at 7:30 p.m. Bring your own food to share with your teammates. A cash bar will be available and there will be raffle baskets. Entrance is \$20 per person and tables will be 10 people per table. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Please make checks payable to The Wilmington Band Parents Association. For more information, please contact Steve Sica at 978-771-0810 or Jeff Bradford at 978-658-1723.

Celebrate Recovery
Tuesdays from 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Lowell Assembly of God, 995 Andover St. in Tewksbury
Celebrate Recovery offers a free, faith-based addiction recovery program. For more information, call 978-851-9800.

Alateen
The first and third Thursday of each month
St. Williams Church (middle brick building), 1351 Main St. in Tewksbury
When there is evidence of alcoholism or drug use in a family, you can see the effects on the other family members, especially young people. Alateen meetings provide mutual support for young people

affected by someone else's drinking and drug use. Come speak with teens who know exactly how you feel. The meetings are confidential and a safe place to share experiences, strength, and hope with each other; discuss difficulties; learn effective ways to cope with problems; encourage one another; help each other understand the principles of the Al-Anon program; and learn how to use the Twelve Steps and Alateen's Twelve Traditions. For more information on the Tewksbury meeting, call Maria Ruggiero at 978-851-7373 X352. For more information on Alateen, call 508-366-0556 or visit al-anon.alateen.org/for-alateen.

Safety seat installation
Every Wednesday from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Public Safety Building, 1 Adelaide St.
The Wilmington Police Department offers safety seat installs at the Wilmington Public Safety Building (1 Adelaide St.) every Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. No appointment is necessary but calling ahead at 978-658-5071 is recommended.

Tewksbury Calendar:

Work & Play with the Friends of the Tewksbury Library

Lisa's "Let's Mingle" Valentine Party
Saturday, Feb. 15 at 8 p.m.
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Fun, food, a cash bar, and live music will be provided by Moneykat. Dance the night away and meet someone new. Entrance is \$20 at the door. For more information, call 978-658-6342.

Work and Play with the Friends of the Tewksbury Public Library
Monday, Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. or Saturday, Feb. 29 at 10 a.m.
Who are the Friends of the Tewksbury Library? What do they do? How can you be involved? You are cordially invited to a Friends' community meeting. It will be a casual gathering and meet and greet for you to hear about their programs, goals, and fundraising. Anyone interested is encouraged to get

involved, a little or a lot. Light refreshments will be served.

Love Your Library Month All February
Tewksbury Public Library
Buy a heart for one dollar and share why you love the Tewksbury Public Library. Hearts are on sale at the front desk and all proceeds go to fund programming. Love Your Library Month is sponsored by the Friends of the Tewksbury Public Library.

Redmen March Madness Competition
Sunday, March 8 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Tewksbury Memorial High School
The competition is hosted by the TMHS Boys and Girls Basketball Teams. Events for grades 3 and 4 include dribbling, free throws, and around the world shooting; for grades 5 and 6 the competition includes dribbling, free

throws, and hot shots; and for grades 7 and 8, dribbling, free throws and three pointers. All grade levels will end with knockout that will be offered to everyone free of charge. Winners will be recognized. Come for music, a DJ, and fun. To register, send an email to TMHSMarchMadness@gmail.com by March 1. Payments can be done with Venmo, Apple Pay, or check.

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Hands-free driving goes into effect on Sunday, Feb. 23

In less than three weeks the state's Hands-free driving law goes into effect. From Feb. 23 through the end of March Officers will be giving warnings in an effort to educate motorists. After this grace period:
1st offense - \$100 fine.
2nd offense - \$250 fine, plus mandatory completion of a distracted driving

educational program.
3rd and subsequent offenses - \$500 fine, plus insurance surcharge and mandatory completion of distracted driving educational program.
For more details on the law please visit the link to the state's website. <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/hands-free-law>

Sen. Finegold to hold office hours on Tuesday, Feb. 25

TEWKSBURY — Senator Barry Finegold and members of his staff will hold office hours in Tewksbury and Dracut during the month of February. There will be two separate sessions in each community to provide different options for constituents to stop by.
Office hours will be held at the following locations and times.
Tewksbury:

- Tewksbury Library Tuesday, Feb. 25 from 7 - 8 p.m.
- Tewksbury Senior Center Tuesday, Feb. 25 from 10 - 11 a.m.
- Dracut: Dracut Library Tuesday, Feb. 25 from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
- Dracut Council on Aging Tuesday, Feb. 25 from 2 - 3 p.m.

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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	4			6	2		

2/12

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2	1	8	7	5	1	3	6
7	5	7	8	1	9	2	3
8	1	2	3	6	9	9	7
3	9	6	7	2	7	9	1

HOW TO PLAY:
Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

NOIINTOS



US Rep. Lori Trahan, who represents Tewksbury, speaks with developmental leaders about what's next for area workers. (Courtesy photo)

US Rep. Trahan, leaders discuss what comes next for area workers

LOWELL — On a recent Tuesday, Congresswoman Lori Trahan joined the Massachusetts Workforce Association (MWA) and the Massachusetts Association of Community Colleges (MACC) to discuss expanding employment opportunities for students entering the Commonwealth's labor markets at a roundtable discussion at Middlesex Community College.
"We must create more viable pathways to entering the middle class by continuing to expand education and training for stable, good-paying jobs. In addition to improving college affordability, investing in community colleges, vocational schools, and apprenticeships can help do that," said Rep. Trahan, who is the state's only lawmaker on the House Education and Labor Committee. "We live in a time of great uncertainty, but also enormous opportunity. If we properly leverage public-private partnerships and summon a spirit of collaboration, we can help ensure that a rising tide does, in fact, lift all boats. Today's roundtable discussion was an important step in that direction."
MWA Executive Director Tonja Mettlich spoke about the future of work in Massachusetts, telling the group, "Many traditional jobs are going away, and we need a workforce that is trained for the jobs that will replace

them. Upskilling and lifelong learning, and how we invest in both, must be a key part of any conversation about the needs of a changing workforce."
"Congresswoman Trahan convened an incredibly invigorating and productive conversation between educators, employers and workforce leaders from throughout the Merrimack Valley and Massachusetts to focus on the multitude of challenges facing skilled workers today," said Middlesex Community College President James Mabry, one of three community college presidents in attendance at the roundtable discussion. "The role of educational institutions such as our community colleges and technical high schools is critical in making sure our students and the workforce has the skills and training they need to secure productive and sorely needed jobs in our communities. Collaborative opportunities like this roundtable to share ideas with our business and employment leaders helps better situate all of us to meet the needs of tomorrow's workforce."
Tuesday's event was one of several regional workforce roundtables being held across the state bringing together leaders in education, industry and government to develop strategies to serve the changing workplace in Massachusetts.



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Lifestyle

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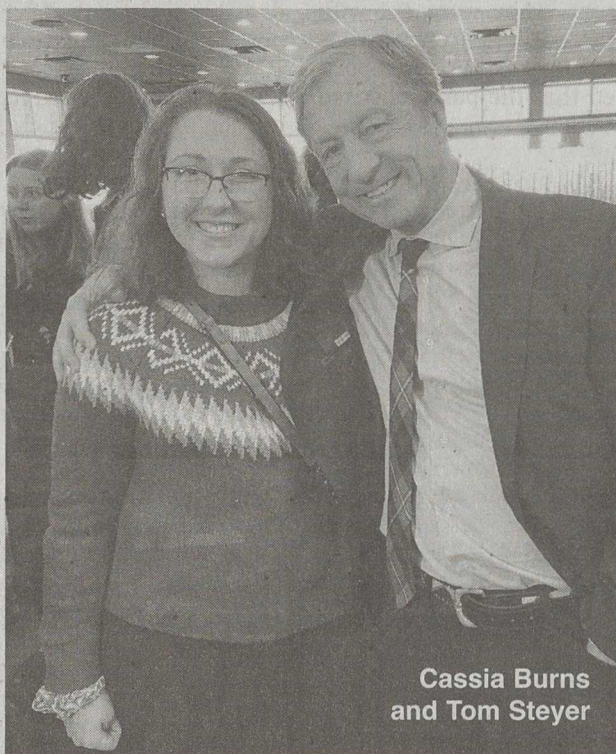
By CASSIA BURNS
News Correspondent

On Monday, Feb. 3, the Iowa Caucuses were held, marking the first nominating event in the 2020 presidential election cycle. In the days leading up to the caucuses, presidential candidates travel the state, reaching out to potential voters in a true display of "retail politics."

In addition to Iowans themselves, candidates and campaign events attract a vast audience of political tourists. Although they are unable to participate in the caucuses, they flock to Iowa for the ability to immerse themselves in the political atmosphere and gain access to the candidates, opportunities that are not always available to those living in later primary states.

This year, political enthusiasts flooded the state, some visiting on their own, and others with larger groups, typically with colleges and other organizations. I was able to visit as part of a group with my college, Emerson College, located in Boston. Through this trip, I was able to meet and listen to several candidates speak, as well as observe an actual caucus precinct in action. As President Trump was heavily favored to win the Republican caucuses, much of our agenda focused on observing events in the more competitive Democratic caucuses.

Among the first candidates I saw was Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren. Following her Senate duties at the President's impeachment trial, she made an impromptu appearance at the Peace Tree Brewing



Cassia Burns and Tom Steyer

Company in Des Moines. She gave a brief speech, and then posed for photos with everyone in the crowd.

My group was also able to see Warren a few days later at a scheduled rally at Simpson College. At both events, Warren emphasized the need for unity among the Democratic party, as well as her plans for "big, structural change" if elected.

Myself and other students also attended a rally for Minnesota Senator Amy Klobuchar, at a middle school located in a suburb of Des Moines. Klobuchar presented herself as a champion for bipartisan efforts in the Senate, and stressed that she would be willing to work to solve issues impacting all Americans, despite any party divide.

Following her event, Klobuchar also met and took photos with audience members.

Other candidates we were able to see were

Tom Steyer, former South Bend Indiana Mayor Pete Buttigieg, Andrew Yang, and former Vice President Joe Biden. At these events, Tom Steyer was the only one to offer time for photos.

Each candidate advocated that they would be the best option to ensure a Democratic victory in November's general election.

At the caucuses themselves on Monday night, we packed ourselves into a school gym in Ames, Iowa to observe. In the caucuses, a candidate must gain at least 15 percent amongst attendees to be considered "viable." If a candidate is found to be unviable, their supporters have the option to leave or support a different candidate.

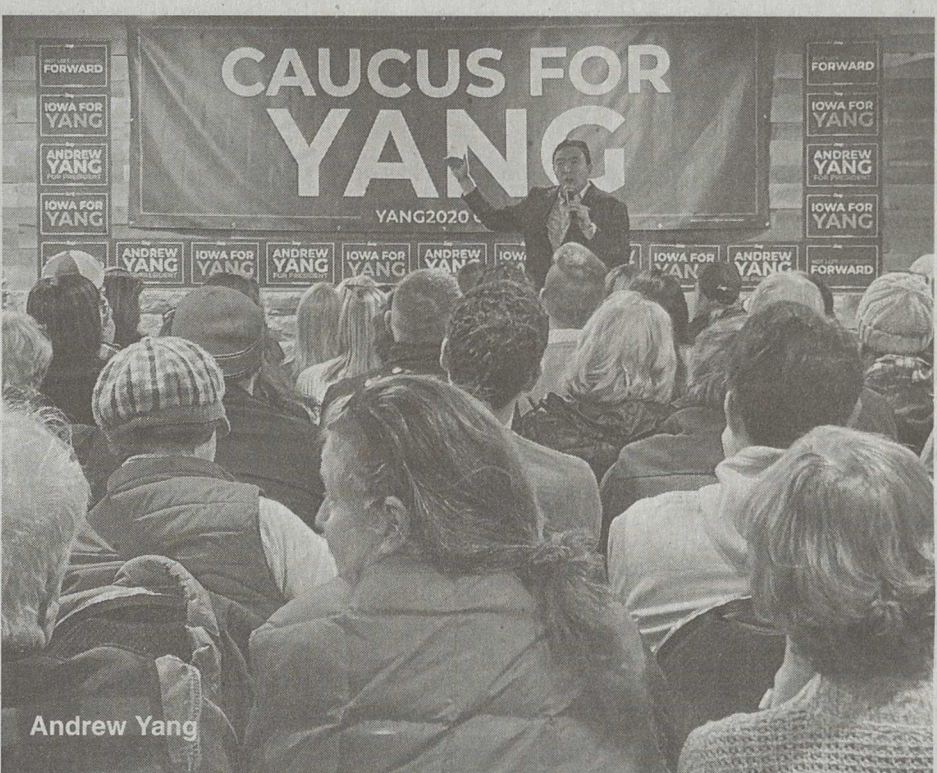
At our precinct, Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders and Warren were the only candidates viable after the first alignment. After the second alignment, Buttigieg also gained viability.



Dr. Jill and Joe Biden
(Cassia Burns photos)



Senator Amy Klobuchar and Cassia Burns



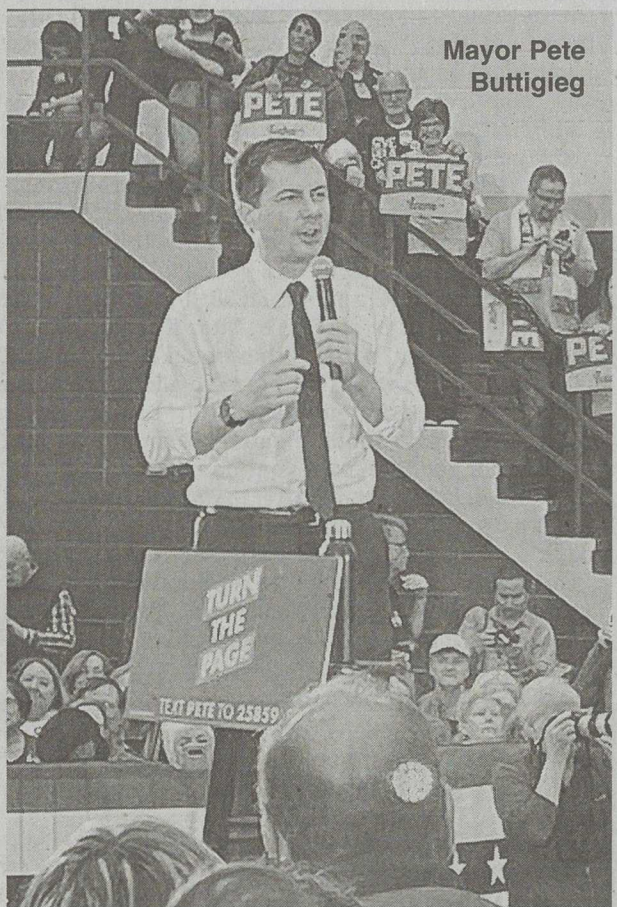
Andrew Yang

ty. Sanders proved to be the winner of our precinct, followed by Warren, then Buttigieg.

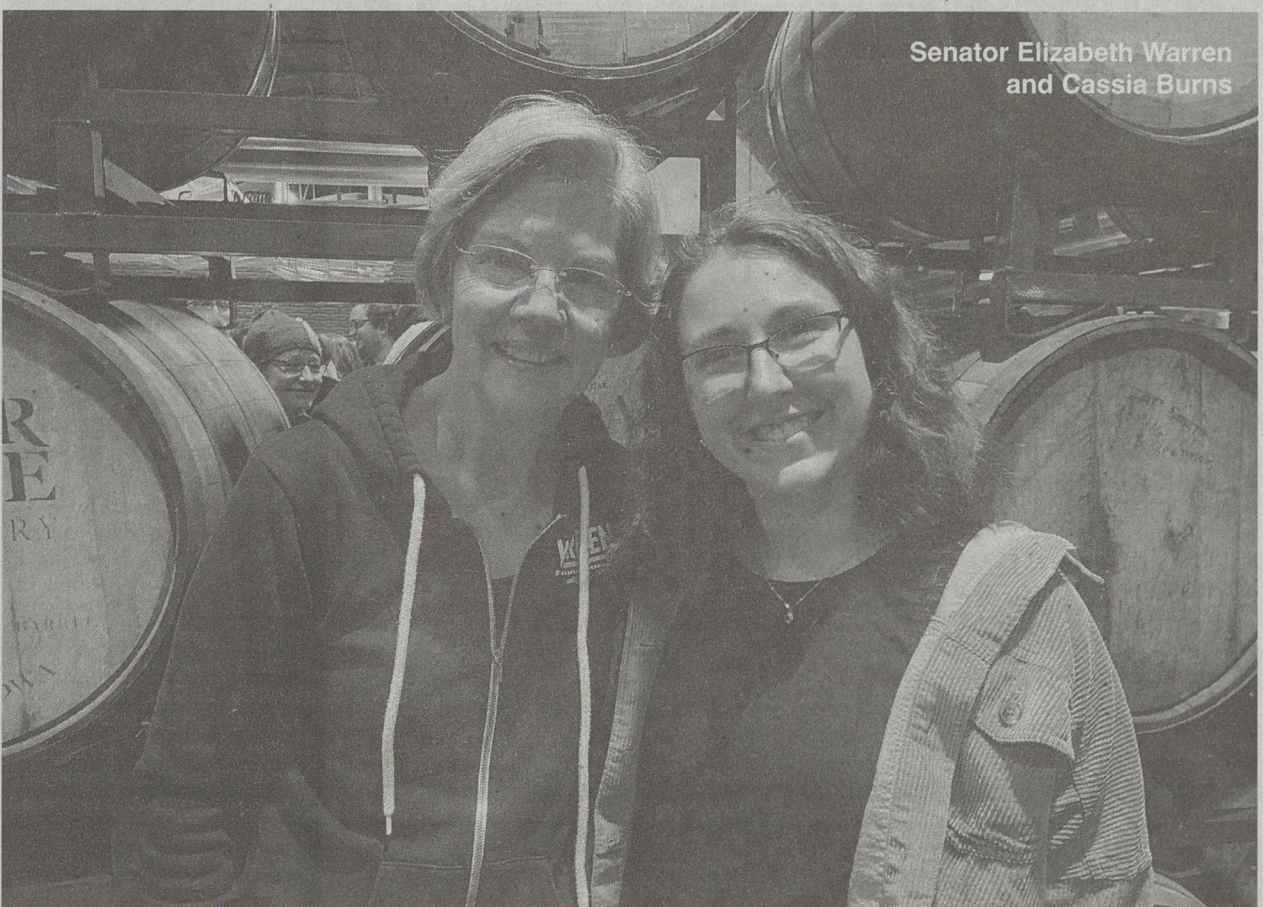
These results proved to be similar to statewide results. After a delay in

releasing results, due to difficulties with the app used to report them, Buttigieg was deemed the winner, claiming 13 delegates. Following him were Sanders, with 12 del-

egates, and Warren, with 8. Rounding out the top five were Biden, with 6 delegates, and Klobuchar, with 1. No other candidate received any state delegates.



Mayor Pete Buttigieg



Senator Elizabeth Warren and Cassia Burns

Stay up-to-date with information you really need

By PAIGE IMPINK
News Correspondent
paige@yourtowncrier.com

In this information age, it is easy to be overwhelmed with marketing messages for all kinds of products and services that corporate computer algorithms "think" we are interested in. We are barraged by telemarketers and emails for products and services that companies who mine our data believe we are likely to buy based on

shopping habits or internet search patterns and key words.

However, there is a way to take control and receive information that is useful and tailored to us; information which can be sent to our inboxes that is actually of benefit and is not seeking to bleed our wallets. Subscribing to these information alerts is free of charge and uses the power of the internet to truly provide information that actually benefits us.

Town of Tewksbury: Receive alerts about important events, meetings, road closures and more. Subscribe to alerts from the town at <https://www.tewksbury-ma.gov/subscribe>

Food and Drug Administration: <https://www.fda.gov/food/recalls-outbreaks-emergencies> Subscribe to emails which give information about food borne illness and product recalls.

Consumer Product Safety Commission: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Newsroom/>

Subscribe Learn about product recalls. Alerts may be tailored to infant and toddler, sports equipment, household products, and outdoor products.

Department of State: Enroll in the STEP program to receive travel advisories about situations abroad. <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/about-our-new-products/staying-connected.html>

Centers for Disease Con-

trol: Receive email alerts about topics that interest you including emergency preparedness topics, epidemics, outbreaks, disease and travel health notices. <https://www.cdc.gov/publichealthgateway/healthalerts/index.html>

MassDOT: Register for traffic alerts at <https://mass511.com/> Learn about road closures in the state and any travel advisories.

Tewksbury Public Library: Learn about events,

programs and services available such as visiting hours for state representatives, fax and copy services, guest speakers, materials to borrow, and more. <http://www.tewksburypl.org/about-us/pages/news-letter-sign>

Weather Alerts: Wireless Emergency Alerts are available from the National Weather Service. Read their helpful guide at <https://www.weather.gov/wrn/wea>



Tewksbury Police Log

Male threatened to leak nude photos of female resident

Monday, February 3

5:27 a.m. - At Livingston Street and Box Car Boulevard, a 911 caller reported an erratic driver that's been following her and getting out of the car to take pictures of her. Police sent. Caller lost the vehicle after pulling into State Hospital. Police pulled over the suspicious vehicle. Male party was spoken to.

2:17 p.m. - The caller witnessed a motor vehicle go through a school bus stop sign while at Shawshen Street and Main Street intersection. The car traveled northbound on Route 38 towards Lowell. Police sent but gone on arrival.

10:08 p.m. - A 911 transfer from Essex reported a male was coughing and his wife panicked and dialed 911 at Rolling Meadows Lane. Male was OK, but the police sent just to make sure. They confirmed that the male was OK.

Tuesday, February 4

11:05 a.m. - Caller reported he can see an unknown white van and parties at Pinta Drive through his video monitoring system. Police sent. Homeowner confirmed it was a company completing services.

11:17 a.m. - A possibly intoxicated party at Fairfield Inn. Police sent. Officer spoke with the party; not intoxicated.

5:29 p.m. - At Fletcher Street, one man under arrest. Jaymes Aaron, 23, of 390 Mammoth Road in Lowell, was arrested and charged with intimidate witness/juror/police/court official, two counts of assault and battery on family/household member, and threat to commit crime: bodily harm.

10:24 p.m. - Female walking requested to speak with an officer; there was an online scam involving purchasing a German Shepherd at Hill Street. Officer filed a report.

Wednesday, February 5

4:28 a.m. - Police sent attempting to serve a warrant at Motel 6. Curtis Cruz, 28, of 229 Chappel Territory in Reading, was arrested and charged with fugitive from justice: Berks Country in Pennsylvania.

9:31 a.m. - The manager from Market Basket North reported there was a male party in the stall of the bathroom drinking alcohol. Police sent. They were making a transport to Motel 6. Police filed a report.

2:58 p.m. - Donald Gibson, 37, of 315 Brook Village Road in Nashua New Hampshire, was arrested and charged with courtesy booking.

Thursday, February 6

12:14 a.m. - A 911 caller reported a loud noise coming from the right of her home at Lancaster Drive. Police sent. Police checked the area and found nothing on arrival.

9:49 a.m. - A woman

called from Carnation Drive to report that she was being blackmailed through Facebook. A male party with an Indian accent was threatening that if she doesn't send money, then he would post her nude pictures. She sent nude pictures of herself to her boyfriend through Facebook. Police filed a report.

2:26 p.m. - Erratic operator traveled down Route 38 towards Lowell. Police sent. They were out with the party in front of Market Basket. Officer reported that the party checked out OK.

8:07 p.m. - A verbal argument with a coworker at Papa Gino's South. Police sent. Officer filed a report.

Friday, February 7

6:08 a.m. - Police out at Motel 6 attempting to serve a warrant. Zion Mokola, 29, of 438 Butman Road in Lowell, was arrested and charged with a warrant for assault and battery on family/household member.

10:26 a.m. - An unknown party inside the caller's residence at Pringle Street. Police sent. Officer filed a report.

7:38 p.m. - Police sent to the Lawrence Police Department to transfer a male and a female prisoner back to the station under arrest. Franyelis Duran, 24, of 14A Rollins St. in Lawrence, was arrested and charged with trafficking in more than 10 grams of fentanyl, and two counts of distribute class A drugs. Jorge Martinez-Santana, 28, of 14 Rollins St. in Lawrence, was arrested and charged with trafficking in more than 10 grams of fentanyl, two counts of distribute class A drugs, possess/use false/ stolen RMV document, identity fraud and unlicensed operation of motor vehicle.

Saturday, February 8

1:40 a.m. - Police out at Main Street and James Street with a motor vehicle. Jennifer Fuller, 44, of 24 East St. in Tewksbury, was arrested and charged with OUI liquor, and number plate violation.

2:21 p.m. - Police out at Lake Street attempting to serve a warrant. Timothy Roy, 56 of 63 Lake St. in Tewksbury, was arrested

and charged with a warrant for probation violation.

4:29 p.m. - Male caller reported a suspicious vehicle parked in the back of United Methodist Church. Police sent. Area was checked, but gone on arrival.

Sunday, February 9

1:45 a.m. - Noise complaint at Motel 6. Police sent. Officer spoke to the party; all cleared.

4:01 a.m. - Police served a warrant at Motel 6. Joshua Gonzalez, 26, of 71 Mystic St. in Methuen, was arrested and charged with a warrant for prevention order violation.

9:45 a.m. - Male caller reported at approximately 7 - 7:30 last night he left items in front of his door to go back to his car and when he returned the items were gone at Motel 6. Police sent and filed a report.

8:04 p.m. - Officer off at Motel 6 in an attempt to pick up a female on a warrant. Jolene Carignan, 43, of 95 Main St. in Tewksbury, was arrested and charged with a warrant for probation violation docket.



Wilmington Police Log

Medford resident arrested for OUI and speeding

Friday, January 31:

2:12 p.m.: A motor vehicle collision occurred at the intersection of Salem Street and Arlene Avenue. A Ford Fusion and a Chevrolet Silverado were involved, one of which was a special needs transport van.

3:20 p.m.: A Nissan Sentra had a one-car collision at Citizen Bank on Main Street.

9:26 p.m.: The Fire Department responded to reports of an odor of gas in the Ballardvale Street area.

Saturday, February 1:

3:43 a.m.: The Department of Public Works was called in to rectify an icy patch of Chestnut Street after police found part of a white vehicle's fender where one hit a rock wall.

4:51 a.m.: A Nissan Rogue hit a pole on Eames Street, knocking down a communication wire.

Sunday, February 2:

1:36 a.m.: David Calautti, 55, of 14 Homer Circle in Medford was arrested for operating under the influence of alcohol and speeding. He was later bailed.

Monday, February 3:

9:35 a.m.: A deceased opussum was removed from

Shawsheen Avenue.

4:02 p.m.: A motorcyclist was injured after crashing their Suzuki motorcycle on Hopkins Street. A Fire Department medical vehicle transported the motorcyclist for medical attention. The vehicle remained at the scene of the crash with the permission of the owner of the property.

5:34 p.m.: The Fire Department transported a patient with multiple lacerations on their head and face to Lahey after a crash. Multiple vehicles were involved and police found one party unconscious when they arrived at the site on I-93.

5:40 p.m.: A minor motor vehicle collision involving a Hyundai Santa Fe and a Nissan Versa occurred at the intersection of Middlesex Avenue and Clark Street. No one was injured and damage to the vehicles was minor.

7:46 p.m.: The driver of a Pontiac G6 was taken to Lahey after hitting a pole on Aldrich Road. The vehicle's airbags deployed. The pole was cracked in half but seemed to be stable; police checked to make sure it did not fall further in the night.

Tuesday, February 4:

6:23 a.m.: Upon stopping a Honda Accord for speeding on Nichols St., police

discovered that the driver's license was suspended, the vehicle did not have a valid inspection sticker, and its lights were defective. The vehicle was towed.

Wednesday, February 5:

6:38 p.m.: Police assisted a parent in getting into their vehicle after they were locked out with a toddler inside at McDonald's on Main Street.

11:07 p.m.: The Department of Public Works was notified of a trash bag and various detritus illegally dumped on the side of the road by Textron at the corner of Lowell Street and Woburn Street.

Thursday, February 6:

7:52 a.m.: A Lexus RX 350 slid and hit a Ford Escape in the Wilmington High School student parking lot.

9:03 a.m.: A Lexus utility vehicle hit a guardrail between Ramps 38 and 39 on I-93. No one was injured.

10:49 a.m.: A Jeep Compass was towed after a collision with a Mazda 6 on the Butters Row bridge. No one was injured in the collision.

1:42 p.m.: A Toyota Avalon and a Ford Fusion were in a motor vehicle collision at the intersection of Woburn Street and Wildwood Street. Both passengers refused medical attention.

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Man charged with crossing state lines for sex with girl

TEWKSBURY — Federal authorities have arrested a New Hampshire man they say traveled to Massachusetts to meet what he thought was a 13-year-old girl for sex.

Donald Gibson, 37, of Nashua, was charged with child pornography offenses and traveling with intent to engage in illicit sexual conduct with a person under 18

years of age, the U.S. attorney's office in Boston said.

He has been detained since his arrest Wednesday and is scheduled to appear in court Friday for a detention hearing. A message was left with his public defender.

Gibson spoke with an undercover agent using text messaging apps and "devised a plan" to meet

at a hotel in Tewksbury in order to have sex with a 13-year-old girl, prosecutors said.

The undercover agent pretended that the fictitious girl was his daughter. Authorities say Gibson also sent child pornography to the undercover agent and also had child porn on his cellphone.

Nominations now being accepted for 2020 Wilmington Good Guy

WILMINGTON — It is the middle of February, nothing much to do until the weather warms up, except to start thinking about who deserves to be the 2020 Wilmington Good Guy! Nominations are now being accepted for that one person who has made a significant impact in helping to make Wilmington such a great town to live in.

The history of the Good Guy Award spans over 50 years and every year, more people are nominated who have served this community tirelessly, donating their time and talent to assist

with youth programs and sports, service projects, community events like the annual Fourth of July celebration, sprucing up the town, volunteering at places like the Food Pantry and Senior Center, and a host of other volunteer and charitable causes in Wilmington.

Let the Good Guy Committee know whom you think would be a fitting honoree for this year's award. Tell them about why this person is so special! This year's winner will be feted on May 8 at the Wilmington Knights of Columbus Hall with a din-

ner and a good natured "roast."

Nominations can be mailed to the Wilmington, Good Guy Committee at 9 Reed St. Wilmington 01887, or emailed to wgoodguy@verizon.net. Be specific about how this individual serves the community!

Nominations must be received by 5 p.m. on March 20, 2020.

(A reminder that an individual serving in a paid or elected position for the Town cannot be nominated in connection with the activities for which they are being recognized.)

Austin Prep welcomes return of Career Day to campus

READING — On Jan. 24, Austin Prep welcomed the return of Career Day to campus. 43 alumni shared their professional experiences with students through panel discussions organized by profession, and a career fair including a resume-building help station.

Headmaster James Hickey, Ph.D. addressed students before they broke off into panel discussion groups.

"Take advantage of this opportunity to interact and ask questions of our alumni. Have conversations not only with our alumni, but with each other. Some things can't be learned from books alone."

Jennifer Hodgdon, Director of Alumni Relations and Giving, shared a quote from St. Augustine with the students: "In your 'today' you will make all that is to exist tomorrow and thereafter, and in your 'today' you have made all that existed yesterday and for ever before."

Hodgdon stated that each of the journeys the alumni have taken beyond Austin Prep has been unique.

She encouraged the students to be "present by listening to our speakers with open minds; and to ask meaningful, engaging questions. Career Day is your 'today.' It is your time to begin building on your future and preparing for your own journey as alumni."

Students had the opportunity to attend two panel discussion sessions, broadly covering the following professions: Athletics, Broadcasting, Business Management/Finance, Career Services, Education, Engineering, Government, Health & Wellness/Science, Journalism/Writing/Communications, Law & Order, Performing Arts/Entertainment.

Austin Prep Faculty served as moderator for these discussions.

"It was great to be back on campus and interact with students. I was very impressed with how engaged they were and how they came prepared with great questions," alum Stephen Boghos said. "(I am) very happy I was able to participate."

Following Career Day, students have engaged with alumni to further their discussions, including one alum who has hired a current student to work in her business. Another student will be interning with an alum this summer at a Boston news station, and a third student is exploring opportunities in journalism with the help of an alum.

The following is a list of participating alumni, including graduation year, current town of residence, and profession:

• Michael Baccari, 2003, Reading (Faculty, Austin Prep School)

• Timothy Bennett, 1994, Andover (General Counsel, Fulcrum)

• Paul Bimmler, 2009, Reading and Dedham (Faculty and Coach, Ursuline Academy)

• Tony Biscardi, 1988, Medford (Faculty, Coach,

Austin Prep School)

• Stephen Boghos, 2008, Boston and Lawrence (Vice President for Business Development, Josephs Bakery)

• Krystle Boyajian, 2016, Winthrop (Journalist)

• Charles Brain, 1968, McLean, VA (Legislative Affairs Specialist and Principal, PSW)

• Hillary Hurst Bush, 2003, Cambridge (Psychologist, Massachusetts General Hospital; Instructor, Harvard Medical School)

• Chris Capone, 1988, Dracut (Faculty, Austin Prep School)

• Joey Carregal, 2005, Boston (Accounting/Financial Analyst at Big Night Entertainment Group)

• Mac Cerullo, 2008, Kingston (Sports Editor, *The Daily News of Newburyport*; Beat Writer for the New England Patriots)

• Samantha Cila, 2011, Wakefield (Trooper, Massachusetts State Police)

• Francine DiChiara Coughlin, 2000, Reading and North Reading (Owner/Founder Bark N'Roll and Rock N' Rescue)

• John Cuoco, 2004, Boston (Morning Reporter for 7News Today in New England)

• Patrick Delaney, 2015, Cambridge (Software Engineer, VT MAK)

• Megan Delaney, 2013, Manchester, MA, (Legislative Staffer for Assistant Minority Whip, MA House of Representatives)

• Alexandra Dell'Anno, 2012, Reading (Faculty, Austin Prep School)

• Abbey Denaro, 2005, North Reading (Owner, Denaro Chiropractic)

• George "Skip" DeVito, 1968, Hopkinton, NH (MD, Associate Clinical Professor of Pediatrics and of Community and Family Medicine, Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth College)

• Matt Diapella, 1998, Tewksbury (Faculty, Coach, Austin Prep School)

• Patrick Driscoll, 1997, Reading (Director of Athletics, Austin Prep School)

• Caitlin Connolly Filteau, 2003, Hudson, NH (Asst. Food Service Director for Malden Public Schools)

• Nate Fuller, 2009, Salem, NH (Engineering Manager, Continental Biomass Industries)

• Kathryn "Katie" Garland, 2009, Medford (Pediatric Speech Language Pathologist)

• Drew Garland, 2007, Medford (Content Producer, NESN Television)

• Felicia Giuliano-Kennedy, 2009, North Reading (Real Estate Professional)

• Gianna Gravales, 2016, Lynnfield (Journalist; Producer)

• John Guanci, 1992, Reading (Life and Business Performance Coach)

• Evan Guarino, 2006, Worcester (Project Engineer, Infratense, Inc.)

• Erika Lambie Hemingway, 2005, North Reading (On-Air Radio Morning Show Host and Marketing Specialist at Northshore 104.9 FM)

• Jen Kruh, 2016, Reading (Grip, Set Decorator, Stagehand in Film, Tele-



▲ Austin Prep alums, from left, Rob Peterson, John Cuoco, Steve Boghos, Joey Carregal, and Erika Lambie Hemingway were among 43 alums who participated in the recent Austin Prep Career Day. (Courtesy photo)

vision, Concert)

• Liz Leahy, 2002, Arlington (Chief of Staff/Sr. Director of Advocacy and Stakeholder Engagement, MA Association of Health Plans)

• Ed MacKenzie, 1999, Londonderry, NH (Faculty, Austin Prep School)

• Anthony Massaro, 1979, Winchester (Physician, Di-

rector, Medical Intensive Care Unit, Brigham and Women's Hospital)

• Jen Pace, 2009, Lynn and Manchester, NH (College Professor, Department of Chemistry, Saint Anselm College)

• Robert Peterson, Jr., 2004, Wilmington (Attorney, Robert G. Peterson, Atty. At Law)

• Jim Peterson, 1976, Wilmington (Attorney, The Law Office of James M. Peterson)

• Nate Piccini, 1993, Burlington (Faculty, Austin Prep School)

• Brian Pupa, 1989, Burlington (Deputy Chief of Police, Wilmington Police Department)

• Ashley Samperi, 2004,

Burlington (Recruiter, Wingate Healthcare)

• Elena Castellano Santos, 2006, Bradford

• Avery Sikora, 2013, Melrose (Associate Manager, Operations, Pagliuca Harvard Life Lab)

• Tom Thornton, 1969, Lowell (Director, Corporate Investment Banking, Bank of America)

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LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION

PUBLIC HEARING

Request for Determination
of Applicability

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on **February 19, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.** in the Tewksbury Town Hall Auditorium, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876 on an application filed by Christopher P. & Christine A. Smith for a Request for Determination of Applicability for the construction of an addition and deck to an existing single family home. Proposed work is within the buffer zone of bordering vegetated wetlands. Said property is located at **80 Oxford Road**, Assessor's Map 55 Lot 10.

The application may be examined in the Community Development Department, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA (978-640-4370 x255), Monday thru Friday 7:30 am - 4:30 pm. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org.

Stefania Gallo
Conservation Agent/
Planner
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LEGAL NOTICE

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Premises: 111 Orchard Street,
Tewksbury, Massachusetts

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Judith Murphy to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Nominee for Flagstar Bank, FSB, and now held by Flagstar Bank, FSB, said mortgage dated January 11, 2005, and filed in the Middlesex County (Northern District) Registry District of the Land Court as Document No. 229598, and noted on Certificate of Title No. 36090, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated February 12, 2013, and filed with said Deeds as Document No. 272108 and noted on Certificate of Title No. 36090, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated December 15, 2016 from Arvest Central Mortgage Company f/k/a Central Mortgage Company, filed with said Registry as Document No. 290256 and noted on Certificate of Title No. 36090, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated August 10, 2018, and recorded with said Deeds as Document No. 297652 and noted on Certificate of Title No. 36090, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on February 21, 2020, at 1:00 PM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

That certain parcel of land in Tewksbury, in the County of Middlesex and said Commonwealth, bounded and described as follows:

Lot 58
All of said boundaries are determined by the Land Court to be located as shown on subdivision plan 8392-N, drawn by Cuocco & Comer, Engineering Associates, Inc., dated January 11, 2002, as approved by the Court, filed in the Land Registration Office, July 2001 with ctf. 35567.

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY

INVITATION TO BID

Town of Tewksbury, MA (Owner) invites Bidders to submit sealed Bids for Heather Row Pump Station Grinder Installation, which includes, but is not limited to of installation of a new manhole and wastewater grinder on the influent piping just upstream of the Heather Row Pump Station, including excavation, installation, equipment, backfill, restoration, and mechanical, electrical and controls Work; and all materials and equipment, services and construction inherent to the Work.

The Work shall be substantially complete within 180 calendar days from the commencement of Contract Time and completed and ready for final payment within 210 calendar days from the commencement of Contract Time.

The Project being bid is subject to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30, Section 39M. A pre Bid conference will not be held.

Sealed Bids will be received until 10:00 a.m. local time on February 27, 2020 Bids received after the

time of announced opening will not be accepted. Bids will be received through the "Project-Dog" website.

Bidding Documents may be obtained on or after January 30, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. electronically at no cost by registering at www.projectdog.com, entering Project Code 836359 in the project locator box, and following the prompts to obtain a free downloadable set of bidding documents. Contact www.projectdog.com or call 978-499-9014 for distribution questions. No monetary deposit is required to obtain the documents. Contract Documents may also be examined, but not obtained, at the DPW office during the following hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Complete sets of Bidding Documents shall be used in preparing Bids; neither Owner nor Engineer assumes any responsibility for errors or misinterpretations resulting from the use of incomplete sets of Bidding Documents, Bidding Documents or any portion thereof provided by third parties, or for modifications to the Bidding Documents not made by official Addenda, including electronic conversion.

Bid security in the amount of 5 percent of the Bid must accompany the Bid in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders. Bidders may not withdraw their Bids for a period of 45 days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
PLANNING BOARD

PUBLIC HEARING

SPECIAL PERMIT AND
SITE PLAN SPECIAL PERMIT

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **February 24, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.** at 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876 on an application filed by **HKT Architects on behalf of Richard Montuori, Tewksbury Town Manager** for a Special Permit and Site Plan Special Permit to construct a 22,244 SF new Center Fire Station with associated parking, storm water management, and utilities as shown on plans filed with this Board.

Said property is located at **984 Main Street**, Assessor's Map 47, Lot 79, zoned Commercial and Town Center Overlay District. Parking is located at **986 Main Street**, Assessor's Map 47, Lot 80, zoned Commercial and Town Center Overlay District. Additional work will be occurring at **970 Main Street**, Assessor's Map 47, Lot 78, zoned Commercial and Town Center Overlay.

The application may be examined in the Community Development Department, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA (978-640-4370 x248), Monday - Friday, 7:30 am - 4:30 pm. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org.

Stephen Johnson, Chairman
200110 2/5,12/20

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids for CATCH BASIN CLEANING "Before June 30, 2020" (Contract PW-20-CB); CATCH BASIN CLEANING "Multi Year" (Contract PW-20-13); STREET SWEEPER SERVICES "Multi Year" (Contract PW-20-14); TRAFFIC MARKINGS "Multi Year" (Contract PW-20-15), will be received by the Town of Tewksbury at the Department of Public Works office, 999 Whipple Road, Tewksbury, MA 01876, until **11:00 AM, on March 5, 2020** at that time and place bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Contract Documents are available after 8:00 AM local time on Monday, February 10, 2020 by going to www.tewksbury-ma.gov under the Department of Public Works tab. No monetary deposit is required to obtain the documents. Bidders are responsible to notify David Lizotte DLizotte@tewksbury-ma.gov about their intent to submit a bid in order to receive addenda. Contract Documents may also be examined, but not obtained, at the DPW office during the following hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

The bidding and Award of this Contract will be under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 30B. The Town reserves the right, in its absolute and sole discretion to reject any or all Bids if deemed to be in its best interest.

200162 2/12,19/20

and legal holidays, after the actual date of the opening of the Bids. Complete instructions for filing Bids are included in the Instructions to Bidders.

Prevailing wage rates as issued by the Director of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, Department of Labor Standards under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 149, Sections 26 to 27D inclusive, as amended, apply to this Project. It is the responsibility of the Bidders, before Bid opening, to request if necessary, any additional information on prevailing wage rates for those trades people who may be employed for the proposed Work under the resulting Contract.

Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, including without limitation, nonconforming, unbalanced, or conditional Bids. Owner further reserves the right to reject the Bid of any Bidder whom it finds, after reasonable inquiry and evaluation, not to be responsible or eligible. Owner may also reject the Bid of any Bidder if Owner reasonably believes that it would not be in the best interest of the Project or the public to make an award to that Bidder. Owner also reserves the right to waive all informalities not involving price, time, or changes in the Work and to negotiate contract terms with the Successful Bidder.

200125 2/5,12/20

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF WILMINGTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held before the Board of Selectmen in the Wilmington Town Hall, 121 Glen Road, Room 9, Wilmington, MA at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 24, 2020 on the application of Jill Elmstrom Mann, Mann & Mann PC on behalf of Fordham Park LLC, to Remove Earth Products on land situated at 100-110 Fordham Road, Wilmington, MA, and further described as Parcel 90, on Assessors' Map 121 and shown on a plan on file with the application for said permit.

Gregory B. Bendel, Chairman
Board of Selectmen
200121 2/5,12/20

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **February 27, 2020 at 6:30 P.M.** in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876 on an application filed by the **Town of Tewksbury on behalf of Richard E. and Gail A. MacDonald** for a variance from Section 4130, Appendix B for minimum lot size, of the Tewksbury Zoning Bylaw to accommodate the construction of the new Center Fire Station as shown on plans filed with this Board. Said property is located at **970 Main Street**, Assessor's Map 47, Lot 78 zoned Commercial.

The application may be examined in the Community Development Department, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA (978-640-4370 x248), Monday thru Friday 7:30 am - 4:30 pm. Legal Notice also available on www.masspublicnotices.org.

Robert Dugan, Chairman
200170 2/12,19/20

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **February 27, 2020 at 6:30 P.M.** in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876 on an application filed by **Thaddeus and Linda Anderson** for a variance from Section 4130, Appendix B for front yard setback, of the Tewksbury Zoning Bylaw to construct a family suite as shown on plans filed with this Board. Said property is located at **117 Tenth Street**, Assessor's Map 83, Lot 98 zoned Residential.

The application may be examined in the Community Development Department, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA (978-640-4370 x248), Monday thru Friday 7:30 am - 4:30 pm. Legal Notice also available on www.masspublicnotices.org.

Robert Dugan, Chairman
200171 2/12,19/20

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **February 27, 2020 at 6:30 P.M.** in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876 on an application filed by **Angelisa Youmans** for a variance from Section 4130, Appendix B for minimum lot size, of the Tewksbury Zoning Bylaw to construct a single family home as shown on plans filed with this Board. Said property is located at **74 Adams Road**, Assessor's Map 18, Lot 21 zoned Residential.

The application may be examined in the Community Development Department, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA (978-640-4370 x248), Monday thru Friday 7:30 am - 4:30 pm. Legal Notice also available on www.masspublicnotices.org.

Robert Dugan, Chairman
200160 2/12,19/20

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF WILMINGTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing has been scheduled before the Board of Selectmen in Room 9 at the Town Hall on Monday, February 24, 2020 at 7:15 p.m. on the application of Town of Wilmington - Department of Public Works to amend the Flammable License from underground storage of flammable and combustible materials to aboveground, such material to be stored at the facility at 135 Andover Street, Wilmington, (Map R1, Parcel 3). A plot plan is made part of this application and may be viewed at the Town Manager's office, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA.

Gregory B. Bendel, Chairman
Board of Selectmen
200179 2/12/20

LEGAL NOTICE



COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT

MIDDLESEX DIVISION

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

Docket No. MI20P0166EA

Estate of:
John Edward Gottlander
Date of Death: 12/01/2019

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Elaine F. Gottlander of Wilmington MA.

Elaine F. Gottlander of Wilmington MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

200164 2/12/20

LEGAL NOTICE



COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate
and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5858

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF
PETITION FOR SALE
OF REAL ESTATE
CONSERVATOR-
MAINTENANCE

Docket No.: MI17P5589PM

In the matter of:
Josephine A. Linton
Of: Tewksbury, MA

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by the Conservator: **Jeffrey Quinn** of Waltham, MA in the above captioned matter praying for license to sell at - private sale - certain real estate situated in **Edgartown** in the County of Dukes for his/her maintenance.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **02/27/2020**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. Maureen H. Monks, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 30, 2020
Tara E. DeCristofaro,
Register of Probate
200166 2/12/20

LEGAL NOTICE



COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate
and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800

CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. MI20P0650EA

Estate of:
John Arthur Ritchie
Date of Death: 10/13/2019

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **William Ritchie of Tewksbury MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **William Ritchie of Tewksbury MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/05/2020**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION UNDER
THE MASSACHUSETTS
UNIFORM PROBATE
CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Maureen H. Monks, First Justice of this Court.
Date: February 06, 2020

Tara E. DeCristofaro,
Register of Probate
200181 2/12/20

LEGAL NOTICE



COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF
THE TRIAL COURT

Docket Number: 19 SM 005406

ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: **Anthony Fiore**

and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq)

Firsttrust Bank

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Wilmington, numbered 1 Third Avenue, given by Anthony Fiore to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Firsttrust Bank, dated March 8, 2017, and recorded in Middlesex County (Northern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 30969, Page 142, has filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before March 9, 2020 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on January 29, 2020.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
200161 2/12/20

Kiwanis Kiss Day



▲ The Kiwanis Club of Wilmington launched their first Kiss Day benefit at five locations Saturday. Market Basket where Stu Nielson, Karen West, Don Rich and Ray Metcalf (Wilmington-Tewksbury Elks fame, donating) covered up in several layers of winter clothes and a warm blanket braved the frigid cold.



▲ Lucci's Market, Heavenly Donuts, and Dunkin' Donuts near Rocco's were other Kiwanis Club donation locations. Here at Lucci's are Sebastien de Verbi-gier, Will Alworth, Jessica Hayduk and Jayne Taylor throwing kisses! (photo: BruceHilliard.com)

McCoy says goodbye to selectmen

MCCOY FROM PAGE 1

lightly.

"After I won my last election three years ago, I had a long talk with my wife and we agreed that it would be my last term," McCoy said in a statement.

He feels that it's his duty to keep his word to his wife and his family.

McCoy shared that he's proud of the difference that he's made in town over the past five decades of service. "I've given 33 years of my adult life to the town — 30 of those years as your selectman. When I owned and operated my restaurant, I gave it 31 years and had a track record of success," he continued.

The selectman also voluntarily joined the hockey rink committee last year as another way to participate in the community.

While he wrote that he has received some opposition in his recent efforts, he maintains that everything he's done has only been to make Wilmington better.

"Individuals on Facebook accused me of joining the hockey rink committee because I had an election coming up and I wanted to get votes," he said. "This is not true."

In the statement, he claims that similar opposition surfaced when he more recently supported the building of a new senior center.

McCoy included that there's not a candidate in his mind that he wants to support right now to claim the seat he leaves unoccupied. He has realized that there's always room to agree to disagree in order to move forward. He assured the board and the town that he has no regrets.

In an official statement, Chairman Greg Bendel thanked McCoy for his many years of service on behalf of the rest of the board.

He wrote, "We all agree that time spent with family and loved ones is invaluable and we wish Mr. McCoy and his family the very best in his retirement from public service."

Duggan named to Dean's List at Tufts University

MEDFORD — Mindy Duggan was named to the dean's list at Tufts University for the Fall 2019 semester. Dean's list honors at Tufts University require a semester grade point average of 3.4 or greater.

Tufts University, located on campuses in Boston, Medford/Somerville

and Grafton, Massachusetts, and in Talloires, France, is recognized among the premier research universities in the United States. Tufts enjoys a global reputation for academic excellence and for the preparation of students as leaders in a wide range of professions.

A growing number of innovative teaching and research initiatives span all Tufts campuses, and collaboration among the faculty and students in the undergraduate, graduate and professional programs across the university's schools is widely encouraged.



Burnin' down the house

▲ The Ballroom at the Burlington Marriott was filled Saturday evening with Shriners from all over New England and Canada for fun-filled pomp and circumstance, plus a surprise skit by the fire brigade. The New Potentate Gary Bartlett (with his head on fire) is surprised by the fire brigade coming to his rescue while his wife, Lady Gloria, looks on in amazement. (photos: BruceHilliard.com)



Town getting closer to having ice rink

RINK FROM PAGE 1

and have minimum cost to the taxpayers," DiGiovanni stated.

The next step for the committee will be to study the pros and cons of a town-owned and run ice facility and get real numbers for the cost of that endeavor. Then, compare it to pros and cons, as well as the

cost, of a public/private partnership.

DiGiovanni hopes that by the next meeting of the committee they will be able to get a few private contractors, as well as other local, privately run, operating ice facilities to speak to the committee and discuss the pros and cons of having a public/private partnership.

DiGiovanni assured, "The committee wants to be fully educated on the impact this will have on the town before any decisions are made."

The next meeting for the Wilmington Ice Rink and Recreational Facilities Committee is tentatively scheduled for March 30, 2020 at 7 p.m.



VFW thanks Market Basket for support

▲ Tewksbury VFW Post 8164, Judge Advocate, Steve Meltzer presents a plaque to Dave McLean and Lori Page of Market Basket Headquarters in appreciation for their loyal and continued support to the annual Buddy Poppy Program. A big thank you to all Market Basket customers who also continue to support veterans.

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- All Digital Dentistry
- Dentistry with a Gentle Touch

CUSTOM SPORTS GUARDS FOR \$50

Financing Available All Family Welcome
Weekend & Evening Appts.

WILMINGTON TEWKSBURY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Music BINGO Bash

St. Patty's Day

FRIDAY
March 6, 2020

Doors Open at 7:00 pm **Bingo Starts at 8:00 pm**

at The Shriners Auditorium Fez Room
99 Fordham Rd., Wilmington

Come hear your favorite songs, sing, win prizes and have tons of FUN!

- Dress In Green For Chance To Win Door Prize
- Bring Your Own Food/Snacks
- Cash Bar
- 50/50 "Pot of Gold" Cash Raffle
- Support the Wilmington/Tewksbury Chamber of Commerce



Tickets \$20 ea.
Tables of 10 Available

For Tickets
Call: 978-657-7211

Email:
info@WilmingtonTewksburyChamber.org

"This is NOT your Grandmother's Bingo!"

WILMINGTON HOUSING MARKET

Average Sale \$543,556.00 Active Listings 8

Average Days on Market 38 Average Days to Offer 25

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Ester DeOliveira
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Ester DeOliveira
617-957-6657
ester@classifiedre.com



▲ Golfers enjoy playing a variety of challenging holes at last year's BSA Troop 126 Mini-Golf fundraiser. Come to this year's event at Villanova Hall on March 7 and get a jump on getting back into form! (Courtesy photo)

ALEC DIFRUSCIA STATE REP

AlecForRep.com
Paid for by The DiFruscia Committee

NO SANC-TUARY STATE
TRANS PARENACY
ACCOUNT ABILITY
NO GAS TAX

Mini-golf fundraiser at Villanova Hall in Wilmington

WILMINGTON — Boy Scout Troop 126 hosts its second annual Mini-Golf Fundraiser on Saturday, March 7, 2020, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Villanova

Hall, 126 Middlesex Ave. Come see the transition of a simple church hall into an 18-hole golf course and enjoy an afternoon of summer family fun in the

middle of winter.

An 18-hole round of mini-golf costs \$5 per person.

Come to the 19th Hole Cafe for lunch, drinks, and snacks.

O'Mahoney seeks to extend time on board

O'MAHONEY FROM PAGE 1

she can continue to make an impact from her position where she can be part of important town discourse.

Two of the upcoming agenda items that O'Mahony would like to see through include the Facilities Master Plan and its new facility priority.

"We're at the point now where we're going to start making decisions on upcoming buildings in hopes that in the next term we'd see a new senior center, the fire substation, and ad-

dress the concerns of the older school buildings like the Wildwood Street School."

Then, O'Mahony is especially interested in addressing economic development, unaccepted ways, and senior housing should she be re-elected.

What's keeping her going is the spark that her time on the board has ignited in her youngest daughter, Josie, who's in fourth grade this year.

"I've been kind of amazed at how involved Josie is," she shared. "She wrote an ELA paper about changing

the town rule so that you could have more than four dogs — and she asked me what the rule was."

The O'Mahonys have two rescue dogs, Finnigan and Gemma. Josie O'Mahony, 9, has also been watching all of the meetings that her mom is at.

Jomarie O'Mahony is currently running, unopposed for her re-election seat. The Board of Selectmen will also have another seat open this year due to the retirement of Michael McCoy, who will not be running for re-election.

A Northbridge Senior Living Community



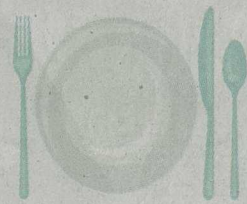
Bayberry at Emerald Court has been the best decision I could have made for my Mom. She is more active and happier than she has been for a long time. The staff make residents feel like they have joined a new family. I have recommended Bayberry to others who are facing the same life changes. **It is so good to know your loved ones are not only safe, but happy!**

- Laurie, resident daughter



BAYBERRY
at Emerald Court

A Northbridge Assisted Living Community



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Online: bayberryatemeraldcourt.com



Third coach in three years for WHS Boys Lacrosse

Keefe brings experience and discipline to the table

By MIKE IPPOLITO
Sports Correspondent

sports@yourtowncrier.com

WILMINGTON - When former Wilmington High Boys Lacrosse coach Zach McDannell made the decision to resign after one season as coach of the Wildcats, it marked the end of an era of sorts for the program.

While McDannell had only served as head coach for one season, leading the Wildcats to a 5-11 record last season, he took over as head coach after serving for two years as an assistant to Fran Peters, who coached the team from 2014-18. Peters meanwhile had previously been an assistant under former coach Kieran Kavanaugh during the 2013 season.

While there is certainly something to be said for consistency within a program, there is also something to be said for an injection of new blood into a program, and the Wildcats certainly seem to have found that in Jeff Keefe, who will take over as head coach of the team for the upcoming 2020 season.

Keefe becomes the fifth head coach in the 12-year varsity history of the program, following Mike Fay who posted a 22-46 record from 2008-2011, Kavanaugh, who was 16-19 from 2012-13, Peters who was 23-58 from 2014-2018 and finally McDannell.

Keefe comes to the Wildcats as a bit of an outsider to the program, but he is no stranger to coaching, having coached one sport or another for the past ten years.

A Billerica native and 2002 graduate of Billerica High, Keefe was a member of Billerica's 2001 state championship lacrosse team, while also playing varsity soccer for three years. Upon graduation from Billerica High, Keefe joined the Marines and after serving his country for four years, he attended and graduated from Framingham State University in 2010. While attending Framingham State, he became the Girls Lacrosse coach at Marian Catholic High School, a position he held for four years.

He then took over as head coach of the Tewksbury High Girls Soccer team where he coached from 2011-2013. Most recently he has served as the JV/Freshman Boys Lacrosse coach at Billerica High, while also assisting at the varsity level. He is also currently the JV Boys Soccer coach at Austin Prep, and a Special Education teacher at Valley Collaborative in Billerica.

He was drawn to the Wilmington lacrosse job by the challenge of getting the most out of what he views as a talented ros-

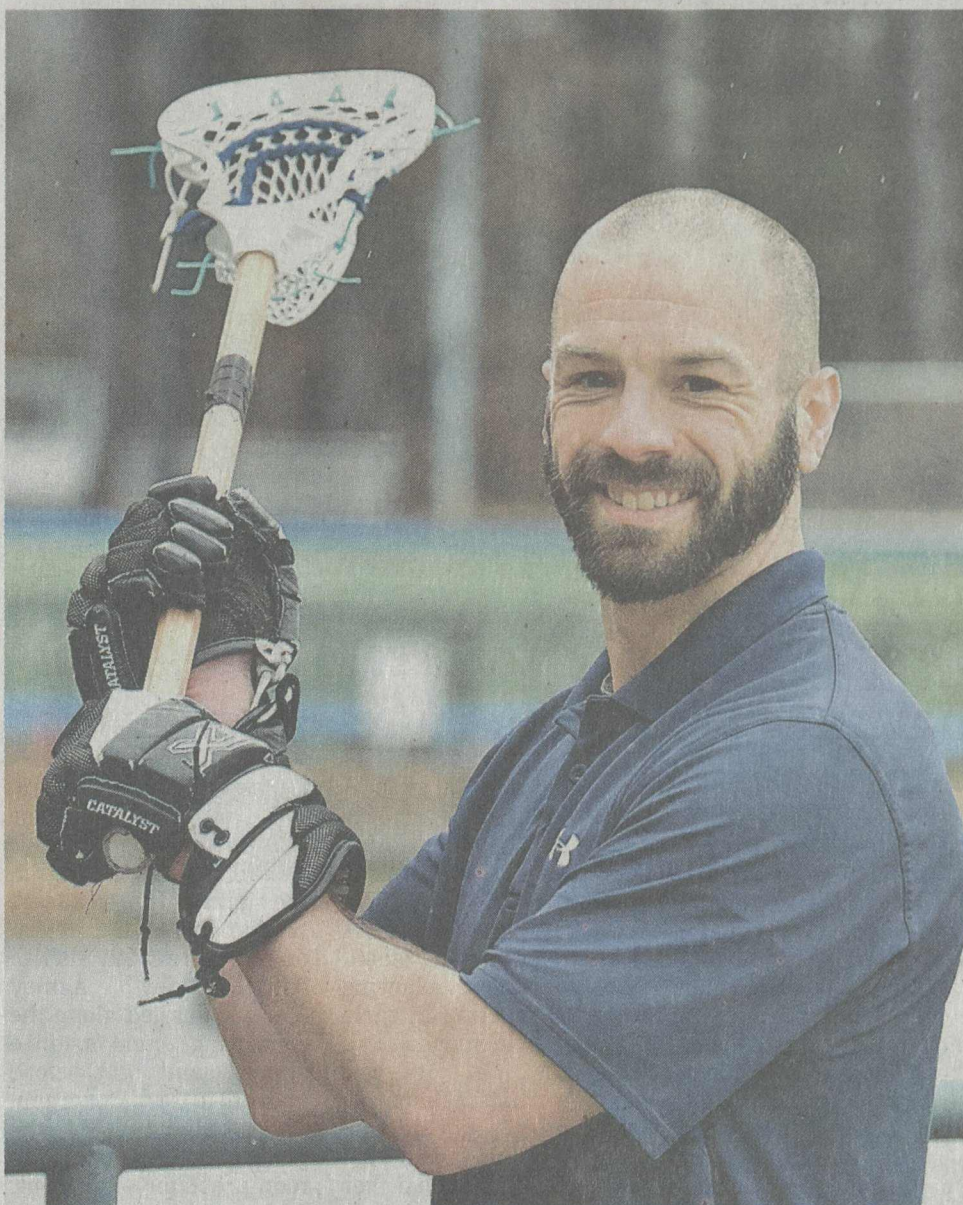
ter.

"I have been coaching in this area, and have coached against Middlesex League teams. I have played and coached against teams like Wakefield, Winchester and Reading my whole life," Keefe said. "And I also knew the kind of talent pool, at least athletes wise that Wilmington has, so I thought with the athletes they have and where they are lacrosse wise, I think that I could be the guy that kind of gets them organized and turns those athletes into lacrosse players and really kind of takes this program to the next level."

Keefe's former coach at Billerica High, long time boys lacrosse coach Craig Flynn, believes that Keefe has what it takes to be successful in his new role.

"I first had Jeff as a player. He was part of our state championship team in 2001. He has all the tools to succeed and knows what it takes to build a championship program," Flynn said. "Later as an assistant coach for me in Billerica, Jeff brought a military background with him, always instilling discipline, attention to every detail, integrity, and a strong work ethic. Jeff will be a great asset to the student-athletes of Wilmington."

Keefe definitely agrees. While he understands the



This past week Jeff Keefe was officially named the new WHS Boys Lacrosse coach, becoming the third coach in the past three years and the program's fifth coach in 12 years. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

challenges of coaching in the Middlesex League, he feels like the pieces are in place to build a successful

program. "I wouldn't have taken the job if I didn't think so. More than anything else, I

just like coaching and being part of the team,"

KEEFE PG SP6W



Last Thursday night, the three finalists for the WHS Athletic Director's position took part on a 30-minute Q&A segment with members of the community. From left, the finalists include Brian Cairra, Mike McCaffrey and Mia Muzio. (all photos by JoeBrownphotos.com).

From the Sports Editor's Desk

After open forum, it appears to be a two-person race

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com

WILMINGTON - If you were among the 25 or so people who were on-hand or you have watched it on WCTV, perhaps you will agree that two of the three finalists for the Wilmington High School Athletic Director's job had strong nights, and seemed to have both made this into a two-person race.

Last Thursday night in the Large Group Instruction Room at Wilmington High School, Wilmington's Brian Cairra, a multi-sport coach and teacher at the middle school, current Windham, New Hampshire AD Mike McCaffrey, and current interim AD at Weymouth High Mia Muzio, each met with parents and coaches for a half hour Q&A session.

Most of the questions centered around the number of issues with WHS Athletics: poor culture, lack of funds, lack of fans at games, old uniforms

and equipment, lack of support for the student-athletes and teams; lack of communication/transparency with the youth athletic leagues in town; lack of field time and space; administrators/coaches not promoting the teams and athletes whether with college programs and coaches as well as with social media, while there were other issues and concerns.

After watching the first half live and the second half off WCTV's website, I thought Muzio and Cairra were outstanding. They were both extremely forthcoming, and both had good ideas of how to fix many of the aforementioned problems.

Cairra was extremely passionate, and played his card of being from town very well, as he should. Muzio was extremely effective with her responses to every question asked. She was extremely organized and had well thought out plans and solutions. McCaffrey

was a distant third in my mind because he danced around a handful of questions and his response about not tweeting out scores of games didn't sit well with a lot of people and another local media member, not just myself.

In my opinion, Wilmington High School needs an Athletic Director who fixes all of those problems mentioned above, but above all promotes the high school, the teams, the coaches and above all the student-athletes every step of the way. That includes all social media (Twitter especially), all websites and all newspapers.

The new AD also needs to have a competitive side to help teach the coaches and athletes on how to get better. The new AD also needs a backbone, and needs to stand up to parents when Jimmy or Jennifer don't play, and also get rid of a coach when there simply needs to be a change.

If the culture of WHS Athletics needs an over-

haul, maybe they should look at what other programs are doing. For

example next door at Tewksbury, almost every sporting event there's

coaches from other programs supporting those

FINALISTS PG SP6W

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Antonia Brunetto handles the puck for the WHS Girls' Hockey team during an earlier season home game at the Ristuccia. (photo by Bob DeChiara).

Despite loss to Warriors, Wildcats still have a shot at league title and playoffs

By DAN ZIMMERMAN
Sports Correspondent

STONEHAM -- Reaching the February home stretch and aware that a defeat in any of their final regular season meetings could signal the end of their tournament hopes, the Wilmington Wildcats girls hockey team had been playing lights-out, beating Winthrop and Burlington, back-to-back.

But on Saturday afternoon, the Wakefield Warriors proved two goals better, 3-1, and made it impossible for Wilmington to gather any more than nineteen-points, one shy of the requirement in order to qualify for the post-season.

But all is not lost, according to second-year Coach John Lapiana, who explained the intricate scenario behind an alternate means to earn a much-valued playoff entry.

"If we are able to win-out over the remainder of the season, the best we can do now is nineteen points, which obviously isn't sufficient," he said. "But if we finish first or second in our division, we'll be going to the tournament. With just five teams in our league, the top-two are granted a playoff berth. So our goal now is to win the league or at least wrap up the regular season in second place."

Currently, Wakefield sits atop the five-team Middlesex Freedom League with Wilmington trailing by a pair in the win column. The Wildcats have a game in hand and two scheduled with Stoneham, which has yet to win a game all season. It does look promising for a second-place finish, as long as they can set aside this loss to Wakefield and get back to the type of hockey Lapiana knows they can play.

"Tonight, Wilmington beat themselves," he said. "Sticks were not on the ice, we were slow to pucks,

and there was no support on the puck carrier. This was a recipe for disaster and we had a mini-disaster tonight."

Clearly, the Warriors learned something about their opponent following the first meeting in early January, which ended in a scoreless tie. It was unlikely that Wilmington goaltender Melanie Hayden would allow anything to get behind her that she could clearly see. But even the best in net fall prey to the screen.

Midway through the first period, Warriors freshman forward Caroline Melanson lugged the puck over the blue line, waited patiently for her teammates to form a screen in front of Hayden, and then skimmed a shot that found its way through a maze of legs and sticks. Annabella Forziati and Grace Seabury earned helpers on the Wakefield go-ahead goal, at 7:12.

After a penalty-free opening frame, Wakefield's Kayli Porter was first to visit the box early in the second period. The Wildcats squandered the opportunity for an equalizer, however, allowing Forziati to steal the puck and tally an unassisted insurance goal, shorthanded.

After falling behind 2-0, the Wildcats began to skate with renewed urgency, matching Wakefield stride for stride, shot for shot through most of the second. Payton Fuller produced the best chance to cut into the lead, firing a hard, precise wrist from the left circle. But the Warrior's net-minder Abby Boudreau proved adept with the catching glove, preserving her team's two-goal advantage.

At the other end, Hayden had her hands full, fending off a dozen third period shots as Wakefield sought to put it out of range. The aggressive Warriors, with a deep forecheck and blue-liners

frequently pinching in, left the door open for Wilmington.

With 9:51 remaining in the game, the Wildcats finally halved the deficit on a goal from Ida Bishop. Eighth-grader Ashley Mercier carried along the right wing, found open ice ahead, and got close enough to test Boudreau. The goalie juggled the puck, giving up an uncommon rebound in front. Bishop, who currently leads the Wildcats in scoring with eleven of the team's twenty goals, would not be denied on the follow-up, burying it in the twine to snap the game-long shutout. Along with Mercier, who shows great promise in the years ahead, Fuller was credited with an assist.

Down the stretch, the Warriors skated aggressively to preserve their lead while the Wildcats battled to take it away. A single penalty infraction to that juncture became a half-dozen in the chippy final three minutes. To the chagrin of Lapiana, Wakefield would cash in on a man-advantage with a power play goal from the Melanson sisters, Caroline with the score, and siblings Hope and Sarah with the helpers to salt it away.

Lapiana traded Hayden for an extra attacker with less than a minute left but Wilmington failed to mount a threat.

"We've fallen victim to this in the past," said the coach, who will next travel to face Stoneham/Melrose on Wednesday followed by a visit to Watertown on Saturday for a rematch. "We fail to get serious about playing until it's too late. In the past, I've mentioned the importance about playing nose to the grindstone for forty-five minutes. Sometimes, we wait until our backs are against the wall to do that."

Senior goalie has been backbone of program for years

In 'Mel We Trust'

By DAN ZIMMERMAN
Sports Correspondent

sports@yourtowncrier.com

STONEHAM -- It goes without saying that the Wilmington girl's hockey team has faced more than its fair share of ups-and-downs over this season, which soon comes to an end. Shorthanded with only 14 skaters at the outset, the challenges that faced this group were apparent. But there was one element that has enabled the Wildcats and their coaching staff to rest easy and steadily progress toward a date with the MIAA Tournament.

Soft-spoken and humble, senior co-captain and goaltender Melanie Hayden has led the 2019-2020 Wilmington Wildcats through a successful season and along with her teammates and coaches, stands on the cusp of claiming a post-season berth.

Armed with a 1.50 goals-against-average, a noteworthy improvement on the 1.90 she recorded as a junior, Hayden shared her thoughts hours before an important rematch with Wakefield.

"We've never been in this position before," said Hayden, when asked about the playoff possibi-

she had made the switch from figure to hockey skates. As she explained, she was following a long hockey lineage in her family and once she had a taste, realized her future was in the sport. Her older sister Emily played four years for the Wildcats and her brother Ryan, 14, hopes to soon join the team and add to the family hockey resume.

As a third-grader, Hayden first ventured into hockey with an all-girls program which combined participants from both Wilmington and Tewksbury. Her father Rich was one of the founders of this popular league which provided a developmental avenue for girl's hockey that had been lacking. As Melanie Hayden explained, she didn't set out to become a goalie, but rather, fell into it by chance.

"I would play any position that my coaches asked of me," she recalled. "For the most part, I skated as a forward which I enjoyed. But if I was asked to fill a defensive role, I had no problem with it. My sister Emily was also playing in the combined league at the Bantam level and asked if I could fill their goalie vacancy. So I joined the

"Melanie is solid, squares to the shooter, and stays up but I admit that she has seen more shots than she should have," the coach shared. "We have attempted to build a defense to help Melanie in this respect and we've worked with her to play within this system so it best benefits her."

"Payton Fuller has really stepped it up for the team," Hayden said, when asked which teammate she felt contributed the most toward the defensive effort. "She plays forward but transitioned to defense because having only four defenders, they were tiring. We needed a little help on the back end and Payton filled that role."

Hayden also paid tribute to junior Zoe DeRose, saying, "She is great in the defensive zone and gets the puck out quickly. She is a great role model for some of the freshmen to look up to."

Hayden wasn't shy when asked about the countless times she has annoyed opponents to the boiling point, when they often abandon discipline and commit ill-advised penalties in frustration. Recent wins over Burlington and Winthrop are examples.



Wilmington High senior goalie Melanie Hayden makes a save during an earlier season home game. (photo by Bob DeChiara).

ty. "Since I joined the Wildcats as a freshman four years ago, I don't recall a time when we didn't struggle. But I think we've been improving, game by game. It's a team effort now and we're all excited about the playoffs."

In 17 games played thus far, Wilmington has competed in nine that were decided by one goal, win or lose. Admittedly, the Wildcats have lacked offensive firepower. This was made evident by the fact that they have not scored more than three goals in any single game and overall have accumulated merely 20 goals in all.

With that in mind, it becomes apparent that this team has relied heavily on their goaltender to hold the fort, either preserving the one-goal leads or keeping them in range for potential rallies. Hayden, needless to say, has been dealt a great deal of pressure.

"True, there's a lot of pressure but I tend to play better under those conditions," said Hayden who, on average, sees nearly 30 shots in each outing. "In middle school, we had a really good team and made it to a number of championship games. We won two of them. I really get up for big games which is one of these reasons I'm looking forward to the playoffs."

Hayden, 18, first took to the ice as a two-year-old and participated in figure skating. By the time she reached the third grade,

older kids, played in goal, and never looked back."

The ambitious Hayden skated on double-duty for a time, as a forward with her Pee Wee team and goalie with her sister and the Bantams. But once she reached Middle School, Hayden began to put in some serious time and effort between the pipes. She eventually enrolled with the Woburn-based Stop It Goaltending School and credits her instructors with teaching her the fundamentals and boosting her skill set.

"I began working with Amy Zappen while I was in the seventh grade and I give her a lot of credit for my success," Hayden said. "She has been great over the years. I usually visit the school once a week but in the summer, I increase the training to twice a week for ninety-minutes each."

Former college goaltender Zappen, who led St. Anselm to a 17-6-1 finish in 2011, also trains several other of high school hockey's finest including goalies from Woburn, Arlington, and Belmont girl's programs.

Hayden has faced a number of high octane offenses and individual snipers over the winter months. Despite a cohesive unit of blue-liners protecting her, opponents still manage to compile an awful lot of shots on net. As he pieced together the building blocks of this team earlier in the season, second-year Wilmington coach John Lapiana sought methods to limit those counts.

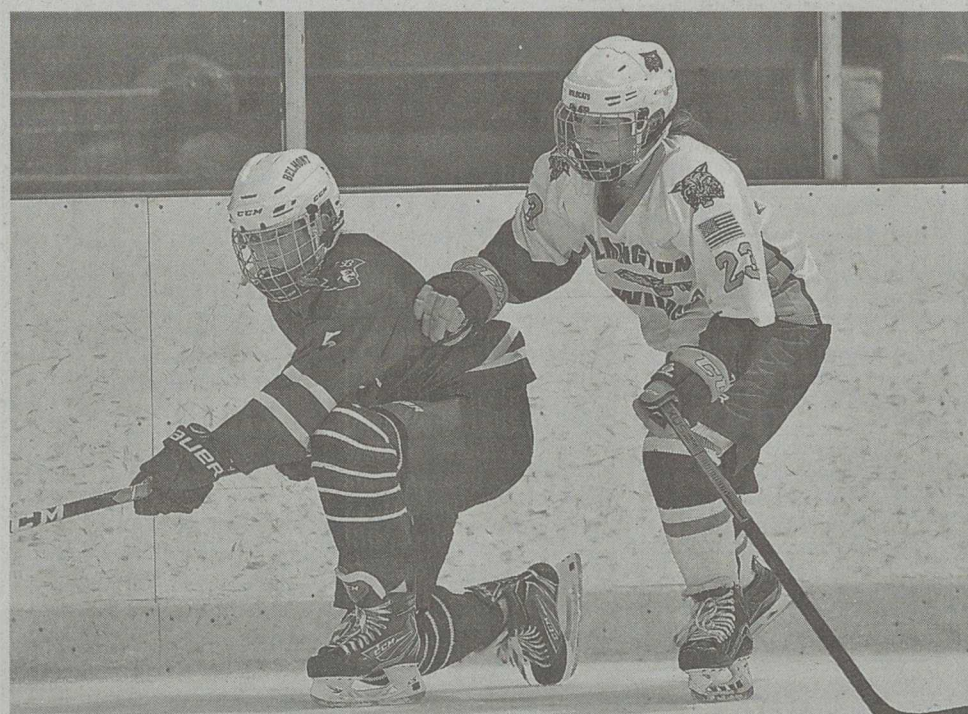
"I kind of enjoy watching that happen," Hayden said with a laugh. "They get upset because they can't put pucks in the net and it becomes power plays for us."

Heading down the home stretch, Wilmington has three left including a pair with a winless Stoneham-Melrose program. The Wildcats fell short of the 20 points required to qualify for the MIAA Tournament but seem to have a lock on second place in the League, just behind Wakefield, and will likely punch their ticket to the post-season by the end of business this week.

When interviewed prior to the start of the 2019-2020 campaign, Hayden said, "Our goal this year is to make the playoffs. I think we can do that."

Prescient words, indeed, from a goalie described by her coach as "the best in the league."

"Melanie has been the backbone of this team for four years," said Lapiana, as he prepares Hayden and the Wildcats for the rigors of the post-season. "I've said it before but it's worth repeating; she makes all the saves she's supposed to, as well as some she is not supposed to. As far as a competitor, she wants to win every match and puts in the work needed to make that happen. She is the kind of player that coaches wish for."



Wilmington High's Katelin Halley tries to get the puck away from a Belmont player during an earlier season game. (photo by Bob DeChiara).

Wilmington resident Casey Pickett-Bates was one of the all-time best at Northeastern University

Making the right 'Pickett' for the Hall of Fame

By MIKE IPPOLITO
Sports Correspondent

sports@yourtowncrier.com
BOSTON - The last time Casey Pickett stepped onto the ice at Boston University's Walter Brown Arena for a Beanpot game, she had skated off as a hero and tournament MVP. She scored the game winning goal in overtime of the 2012 championship game to give the Northeastern Huskies a dramatic 4-3 win over BU to capture the Women's Beanpot.

Last Tuesday night Pickett -- now better known as Casey Pickett Bates since her 2018 marriage to Mark Bates -- returned to the Walter Brown Arena, this time not to play a game, but instead to be recognized for her brilliant playing career. She was honored along with three others, for her induction into the Women's Beanpot Hall of Fame.

To say it was a well deserved honor for the Wilmington native and 2013 Northeastern graduate would be an understatement. The four-year letter winner for the Huskies served as team captain for two seasons, and had an amazing career, tallying 59 goals and 66 assists for 125 points, ranking her 13th all-time in Northeastern Women's Hockey history.

She saved some of her best performances for the Beanpot, where she played in eight games during her career and tallied four goals and four assists, including the overtime thriller in 2012.

It was a career to be proud of, and last Tuesday Bates, who is in her fifth year as head coach of the St. Mark's Girls Varsity Hockey team, was able to take brief break from her busy life to look back on that career and share it with some of the most

important people in her life.

Bates was very well represented at the ceremony, which took place between the two first round games that were played that night.

"The best part about it was I got to take my St. Mark's team with me and they got to see college hockey played at such a high level," Bates said. "They also helped make my cheering section a little louder."

That cheering section included Casey's parents, Laura and Kevin Pickett along with her siblings Mike, Meghan, Cam, and Brian, all of whom are Wilmington High graduates, as well as her husband Mark. To say that the Pickett's are a hockey playing family would also be quite the understatement, as well. Brian won two state championships with the WHS Boys Hockey team and Meghan was a two-time captain of the WHS Girls Hockey team. But on this night, all eyes were on Casey.

"It was great having my parents, my grandparents, my husband, my siblings and even one of my cousins, who is now a rival of mine because she plays at Noble, all there for me," Bates said. "It was great to have the whole cheering section back together. It was a little different than when I was playing, but it was nice to have everyone there. That was one of the nice things about college too, because I played so close to home, everyone got to come to my games."

Another nice thing about college obviously was playing in, and winning the Beanpot. Bates overtime game winner in 2012 gave Northeastern their first Beanpot title since 1998, and was a fitting end to a career which saw her play in the Beanpot finals

twice, losing a 1-0 heart-breaker to Harvard in 2010 before winning the title two years later.

"I don't always think about that moment itself of scoring the game winning goal, but this time of year the memories come back," Bates said. "But it is more thoughts of sharing memories with my teammates that come back this team of year. It was a great experience getting to play in the Beanpot, and then especially to win it."

Bates is now helping young hockey players make memories of their own. The 29-year old is now in her fifth year as head coach at her alma mater, St. Mark's, where she attended after playing for Wilmington High as an eighth grader. While a coaching career wasn't necessarily what she had in mind when she was an English major at Northeastern, she is tremendously grateful to be coaching at St. Mark's, where she also serves as the Assistant Athletic Director, and teaches sophomore Honors English.

"I had thought about it (coaching) a little, and my high school experience here at St. Mark's was so great, that it was always something that was on my mind," Bates said. "To get to work in a place like St. Mark's where there are so many ways of teaching is very special and coaching is just an extension of that teaching."

When Bates first started coaching and teaching at St. Mark's she was still very much committed to her own playing career, in the midst of a professional career that saw her spend time with both the Boston Blades of the CWHL (winning the Clarkson Cup in 2015) and the Boston Pride of the NWHL (winning the first ever Isobel Cup in



Wilmington's Casey Pickett Bates was inducted into the Women's Beanpot Hall of Fame last Tuesday night. She was accepted into the Hall by Kathy Wynters, the Associate Commissioner of Hockey East. (courtesy photo).

2016). But eventually she had to decide to hang up her skates for good, in the professional sense, anyway. "When I first left Northeastern, I still felt like I was at the peak of my career and I did not feel like I was ready to walk away," Bates said. "I had the opportunity to play for the Blades and that was a great opportunity to play with and against some of the best players in the country."

"Walking away from professional hockey was not an easy decision, but my life

at St. Mark's is very busy and I did not feel like I could be the best version of myself in both my career and in hockey. Playing professional hockey is not possible if you are not willing to put in all the time that is needed."

But Bates has no regrets about her decision to dedicate all of her efforts to St. Mark's. She has led the Lions to a 10-8-1 record so far this season while building great memories with her players. And on Tuesday night, she got to relive some great memo-

ries of her own.

"It is definitely a great honor. Growing up right outside of Boston, the Beanpot was a big part of my life growing up," Bates said. "It was such a cool experience to play in it. It was the best part of my college career, and I was very excited to receive the email that I had been selected for the Hall of Fame. It's not something I had really thought about before, but it is such a great honor."



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Above, Wilmington's Anne Wingate works to get past Woburn's Bridget Guiendon during Tuesday night's game between the two frontrunners of the Middlesex League. Wilmington's Jenna Tavanese is in on the play. Below, Tavanese looks to keep the ball from going out of bounds under pressure from Woburn's Ashlyn Pacheco and Kelsey Doherty (right). (photos by JoeBrownphotos.com).



Wilmington can win league title outright on Thursday 'Cats 13-game winning streak halted by Liberty Division leader Woburn

By MARK NADEAU
Sports Correspondent

marknad26@gmail.com

WILMINGTON - The Wilmington High girls' basketball team was sad to see its 13-game winning streak come to an end, Tuesday night at Torrice Gym, but the Lady Wildcats did their coach proud and displayed the drive and confidence that suggests the party is a long way from being over for this squad, despite the 66-59 loss.

While Wilmington was looking to extend its incredible winning streak, the Tanners were two wins away from a perfect season in the Middlesex League.

"We came in with confidence, which is something we struggled with against Woburn in the past couple years," said Wilmington coach Jessica Robinson. "Which is good to see because we know we belong on this stage, and we are going to keep fighting."

The No. 22 ranked Wildcats hung around in the first half with the help of great play from Olivia Almeida, who had two 3-point baskets and 10 points (15 overall), plus phenomenal free throw shooting, led by forward Kylie DuCharme (16 points, 10-for-14 free throws).

It was a good thing the shots from the charity stripe were dropping because Robinson does not like it when there are that many fouls called.

"There were a lot of fouls called and it's tough to get into a flow when you have that type of officiating," she said. "But when you hit free throws, it puts you in a good position."

It was a five-point game at the half, 32-27, and still a five-point game in the third quarter (37-32) when No. 5 ranked Woburn went on an 8-0 run to take a 13-point lead, 45-32.

Right when it appeared the Tanners were wearing Wilmington out, the Wildcats dug in over the end of the third and start of the fourth quarters.

Guard Jenna Tavanese started the turnaround with 5-of-6 free throws and seven points down the stretch of the third quarter.

"It says a lot about the girls on this team - they want it," said Robinson. "That's a great way to be at this time of year."

It was a 10-point game in the fourth quarter when Wilmington went on a 9-0 run to cut the deficit to a single point, 55-54, with under four minutes to play.

The run began with a free throw from Jenna

Sweeney, and continued with a sequence from Tavanese where she hit a three-pointer, stole the ball in the backcourt and went in for a layup, cutting the lead to four, 55-51,

beat Belmont, Tuesday night, which means the Lady Wildcats can win the Middlesex League Freedom division outright with a win at home against the Lady Red

Boston Herald's Eastern Mass Top-25 Girls Basketball Poll

1. Franklin* (15-0)
2. Bridgewater-Raynham (15-1)
3. St. Mary's (16-1)
4. Central Catholic (16-1)
5. Woburn (15-1)
6. Chelmsford (15-1)
7. Cathedral (10-1)
8. *Natick (14-2)
9. Pentucket (17-1)
10. Bishop Feehan (15-2)
11. Needham (15-2)
12. Foxboro (13-2)
13. *Medway (15-1)
14. *Medfield (13-2)
15. Norwood (15-1)
16. Hingham (14-2)
17. Cambridge (15-3)
18. Oliver Ames (13-3)
19. Andover (12-4)
20. Newton North (13-4)
21. Marblehead (17-2)
22. Wilmington (13-3)
23. Amesbury (15-1)
24. Norwell (14-1)
25. Rockland (14-2)

*Will compete in Central Mass Playoffs.

and prompting a Woburn timeout.

Sweeney then executed a basket-and-one, to make it a one-point game (55-54) with 3:20 to play.

The Wildcats missed out on a chance or two to take the lead before Woburn began to make some big shots down the stretch to retake control in the final minute. Treys from Carley Dangora and Megan Roderick put the final nails in the coffin.

"This was one of the top teams in the state we went up against tonight in Woburn, and we didn't back down," said Robinson. "That's something to hang your hats on when you play them to the buzzer, but we fell just short."

The Wildcats enjoyed a run that saw them go from 0-3 to a tournament-bound 13-4 squad, with three games to go.

"That was a nice ride," said Robinson, of the 13-game winning streak. "You never want those things to come to an end, but we can't see this as a setback. We have one day to get ready for Melrose and then we'll try and start another winning streak."

Burlington was able to

Raiders on Thursday night.

On Sunday and Monday, the team will compete in the St. Mary's Tournament, first taking on defending Division state champion Pentucket Regional on Sunday at 2 pm, and then either Groton-Dunstable or Medfield on Monday.

Last Friday night, Wilmington defeated Watertown, 55-44. Tavanese led the way with 19 points and 6 assists, DuCharme ended with 16 points, 8 rebounds and 5 blocks, Jenna Sweeney, Olivia Almeida and Alyssa Morrison combined for 18 points.

BOYS DROP TWO

The WHS Boys Basketball team was defeated by Watertown, 52-37 on Friday and then by Woburn, 56-45 on Tuesday night. The 'Cats are now 2-15.

Wilmington will host Melrose on Thursday and then go to Triton Regional and St. Joe's Prep on Wednesday. If Wilmington wins those final two games of the season, they will qualify for the Division 3 North Sectional Tournament under the Sullivan Rule.

JV player nets 43 points on Tuesday night

By MIKE IPPOLITO
Sports Correspondent

sports@yourtowncrier.com

WILMINGTON -- A future star may be developing at the junior varsity level for the Wilmington High Boys Basketball team.

On Tuesday night, the JV Wildcats took on Woburn in what was presumed to be just another game for the future Wildcats to continue to prepare to play at the varsity level. Instead,

those in attendance got to see a performance for the ages by Wilmington sophomore Brian Duggan, who scored an amazing 43 points during the Wildcats 69-56 victory over the Tanners.

Wilmington JV coach Patrick Taylor saw this as another step in Duggan's rapid improvement this season.

"Brian has really developed this year at the JV level. He was on the JV team last year and if you watched him play you

could see the potential was there for him to be a very good basketball player," Taylor said. "The two biggest improvements I have seen in Brian from last year to this year are his shooting consistency and his strength."

"In the game yesterday, Woburn had four or five guys cover him at various points and he overpowered all of them in getting to the basket."

Duggan was outstanding from all over the court en route to his big night, as he hit seven three pointers, while going 10-for-15 from the free throw line and hitting six two-point field goals.

"When they would give him a step or two, he recognized what they were doing and would shoot the three, a testament to his court awareness of what the defense was giving him," Taylor said. "There were points in the game I just stood shak-

ing my head because he could not be stopped and it was really special to watch. In my ten plus years of coaching it was one of, if not, the most dominant performances by an individual player I have seen at any of the three levels."

While an official stat for field goal percentage is not kept at the JV level, Taylor says that Duggan shot well over 50% on the night.

"It wasn't one of those tainted performances where a player scores 40 points on 35 shots," Taylor said. "Brian and the team have had an excellent season with a record of 8-7. Three of those wins were against large school teams (Reading, Winchester, Woburn) and in this league, no matter the level, if you are a small school beating a large school team, you take a lot of pride in it."

Annual K of C Free Throw Contest, February 20

The 2020 Wilmington Knights of Columbus Free Throw competition will be held Thursday, February 20th at the Wilmington High School Gymnasium.

Wilmington boys and girls ages 9-14 are invited to participate. Registration begins at 6:30 and the competition starts

at 7:30pm.

Last year's competition was a great success and we look forward to another great event this year.

For details or any additional information, contact Dan Woods at (781) 710-7779 or donco7@verizon.net.



BRIAN DUGGAN

Hockey team gets all tied up; still needs a point to qualify

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com
WILMINGTON

Needing a win to get into the state tournament for the third straight year, the Wilmington High School boys' ice hockey team hosted Wakefield for a Saturday afternoon matinee game.

Much like the season has gone, the Wildcats had minutes of playing extremely well and minutes of the complete opposite. And much like the season has gone, the Wildcats needed yet another brilliant performance from their goalie to bail them out, as junior Sam Cedrone was spectacular once again, turning away 37-of-the-40 shots he faced, including several gems late in the game when the Warriors took advantage of some Wilmington turnovers.

His performance is the only reason why the Wildcats escaped with a 3-3 tie, which came after another stronger performance in a 1-1 tie last Wednesday night against one of the top teams in the state in Burlington.

The two ties puts Wilmington at 8-7-3 overall. Now the Wildcats will have two more cracks to get at least a tie against Stoneham -- who beat them earlier this season and also needs one win in their last three games to get into the tournament -- and then Tewksbury -- one of the top ranked teams in Division 2, who on Monday night, played fantastic in a 4-3 loss to BC High, arguably the best team in the entire state.

"We still need a point (to qualify for the tourney)," said Wilmington coach Steve Scanlon. "We did enough to hang in there. Again, good goaltending saved us. We were hoping to do it (qualify for the tournament) (Saturday). It was Senior Day and all that. You'd think we'd



The WHS Boys Varsity Hockey team includes front row from left, Ryan Parker, Justin Crowley, Christian Robarge, Jared Venezia, Anthony Cuozzo, Joe Hill and Brendan George; Middle row from left, Derek Gallucci, Chris Bernazani, Matt Pendenza, Tayler Padulsky, Zach Kincaid, Robbie Courtney and Derek Gallucci; back row from left, Alex Fitzler, Sam Cedrone, Peter Kourkoutas, James Kourkoutas, Jason Davey, Riley Fitzgerald, Anthony Savage and Aidan Murphy. (photo by Jim Vaiknoras).

really dig in on a day like this. But it didn't happen."

Over the last few years for different reasons the Wildcats have had to use two goalies throughout the course of the season.

Earlier in the season, Anthony Cuozzo played fantastic but ended up getting ill. Cedrone, who missed all of last year with a knee injury, has since come on and has played phenomenal. He stopped several point blank shots, his rebound control has been excellent, and two of the three goals came off Wilmington turnovers.

"He was the difference in the game," said Scanlon. "For about the fifth straight game we've given up more than 35 shots -- fly by defense, we can't handle the puck in our own zone. The penalties continue to be a problem."

"The turnovers too -- hang on to the puck, hang

on to it and we just have a lot of problems with stick skills. Some kids have them, but some don't and then we were undisciplined. We lost a player and that stuff just kills you."

Wakefield led 1-0 after the first period as the 'Cats were really struggling in their own zone to get the puck out. Things settled down in the second period as the 'Cats really took it to Wakefield.

Just 35 seconds into the period, while on the power play, captain Jared Venezia dumped the puck into the left hand corner, beat the player to the puck and put a gorgeous backhand pass to a wide open Joe Hill, who deposited the shot to the back of the net from the slot area to tie the game up at 1-1.

Then 3:28 later, the 'Cats were back at it on another pretty set up. Riley Fitzgerald showed off his

skating ability and circled behind the net with the puck and passed it to a wide open Zachary Kincaid, who from the left side of the net, drove the puck home into the wide open left side to make it 2-1.

After Cedrone made a terrific glove save to keep the lead intact, Wakefield tied the game up with 3:48 left in the period.

Seventeen seconds after that, a small scruff to the left side of the Wakefield net ensued and after everything was sorted out, one of the Wilmington was players was given a penalty and a game misconduct.

Wilmington was able to kill off the penalty and seconds after it was over, Wakefield scored as Brogan Chambers scored his second goal of the game off a rebound and the Warriors were up 3-2 with 1:12 to go.

The 'Cats didn't stop and

came right back. Just 26 seconds later, Venezia gave another nice pass back to Christian Robarge, whose quick shot through the 5-hole tied the game back up at 3-3 with 46 seconds left.

"That was a gutsy goal," said Scanlon. "We were in a little trouble right there and then to come back and get one before we went in the room helped out a lot. We were looking for a better third period. We were going pretty good. Then we slowed ourselves with penalties. Two penalties came and you spend the rest of the period killing penalties. It's hard."

Wakefield outshot Wilmington 13-5 in the third period, including Cedrone making two gem saves, the first on a 2-on-1 coming halfway through the period and the second coming with a chest save on a high shot coming off a Wilmington turnover.

The 'Cats did kill off two penalties, the first coming 17 seconds into the period and the second coming with 6:55 left.

"(Wakefield is) a very improved team," said Scanlon. "They have some good wins of their own. You have to give them some credit. They played well. We'll take the point and move on. (Counting today) we have three cracks to get the two points, so you would think you can do it."

In the 1-1 tie with Burlington, Chris Bernazani scored the lone goal, while, Cedrone made 37 saves for the gigantic tie/point.

"Burlington is a high powered offense so you would think that they would get 30-plus shots on you and it ended up being 38-31 shots (in their favor)," said Scanlon. "We were right with them."

HOCKEY PG SP6W



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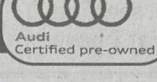
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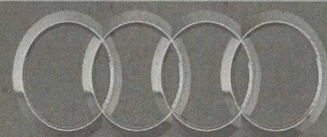
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After open forum, it appears to be a two-person race

FROM PAGE SP1W

teams and tweeting out scores and highlights. When it comes to the coaches and athletes themselves, there's always the comments about how special it is to be from Tewksbury, to wear the 'T' on their shirt, to 'win or lose with their brothers and sisters'. The kids will talk about their love for the sport, their coach, their teammates and how the team 'buys-in'.

It is not often you hear those things in Wilmington.

If the town of Wilmington is serious about fixing the problems with athletics, there's another easy solution which I have stated for years: pay your coaches as much as surrounding towns do. In addition, hire and pay varsity assistants to help head coaches run practices, develop their student-athletes, keep kids interested and help with team chemistry.

Wilmington coaches have taken a beating in the public eye over the years, but they can only work with what they have been dealt.

There's an attendance problem here at WHS, too. So there's some easy fixes for that. First, stop scheduling non-league games against teams no one ever heard of, or against teams that will bring in 12 people. Utilize the turf field and the gymnasium and have more night games - not 4:00 pm or 5:30 starts, but 7 pm. Make a phone

call to the town next to you and get the rivalry with Tewksbury - in all sports - back. You can schedule doubleheaders in soccer, hockey, lacrosse, etc.

You can also do these things with the new rivals from Stoneham and Burlington.

In addition to that, you can schedule invitational meets in track, tournaments for other sports teams that can bring in anywhere from 3 to 30 teams. Those things bring in people, money and of course lots of publicity.

If you want to fix the budget problem, there's several smaller things you can do. Like Cairra mentioned, there should be youth camps for all of the athletic programs and not just soccer and basketball. You can run day clinics, too.

One of the biggest things you can do is utilize the brand new high school, gymnasium, tennis courts, field turf, track, the Dick Scanlon Memorial Baseball Field as well as the gorgeous Yentile Farm complex. Either have all of the Wilmington youth programs share those fields and courts when the high school teams aren't there, and/or rent out the gymnasium and host a number of different events.

You can also have events with alumni - surely you can get 100 former athletes of a program together for a social gathering with the money going

back to those programs.

I haven't even discussed the proposed new ice rink and the possibilities you could do there, but I think you get my drift.

There's lots and lots of work to be done here and there's many ways to fix all of these problems. It's not going to happen over night and some issues may take years or never get resolved. But from what I watched with my own eyes and then online from the other night, both Cairra and Muzio seem to have a really good grasp on the problems and how they would address them. I actually think both of them collectively would solve so many problems, and with a little creativity perhaps both could be added in some capacity?

This job will not be easy. After 27 years here with the Town Crier and working for various other papers, magazines and websites over the years, I have dealt with a lot of Athletic Directors and I have seen what works and doesn't work. My message to the next WHS AD is come ready to work, and get your hands extremely dirty each and every day. If you are here to fully invest in this town for the long haul, and invest in ALL of the children here in town, then we would love to have you on board and you can see for yourself how wonderful this community can be.



Wilmington's Amber Flynn competes in her the 300-meters during an earlier season track meet held at BU. (photo by Jim Vaiknoras).

Keefe brings experience to the table

FROM PAGE SP1W

Keefe said. "We are going to have some on field goals, but more than anything I am just happy to be here and be part of the Wilmington community, and being part of being a positive role model for these kids, not only being a coach, but being a teacher as well. I think overall it is going to be a good fit for me."

As Flynn said, Keefe's military background is a something he can rely on in his role as a coach, and something Keefe feels can only benefit him and his team.

"Mostly it is just about attention to detail. It allows you to stay, as Tom Brady would say, laser focused," Keefe said. "Nothing is done for no reason. There is always a purpose and always a goal. It is also that drive and that commitment and that passion. The military also teaches you how to become more of a part of a unit than thinking about yourself."

"If that is something you can be successful in teaching your students, if they can create that collective mentality where the team is most important, that is when you can really get a group of kids to buy in, become that unit and really start playing together as a team and a family and that's when you can get to those next steps and be successful."

Keefe feels like that success can start as early as this season. While the Wildcats lose ten seniors off of last year's squad, including captains Ben Wright, Andrew Sullivan and Connor Benoit, they bring back some talented players including sophomore Gavin Erickson and seniors Christian Robarge, Zach Kincaid and Thomas Greco, among others. Keefe likes what he has seen so far.

"What we are going to try and do right away is take advantage of the athletes that I have seen on film, and from what I have

learned from talking to (assistant coach) Craig Turner and the other coaches," Keefe said. "We are going to try and organize them so we are playing a more controlled, sophisticated style of lacrosse. We want to make it so teams like Reading, Wakefield and Winchester know when that they play Wilmington it is going to be a hard game."

"These guys are going to know what they are doing. They are going to be organized and be in the right position at the right time. It is not going to be a walkover. Every game is going to be a competitive game. If we can make ourselves at least be competitive this year and maybe get to .500 and make the tournament, we will take it from there going forward."

Jamie Pote contributed to this report.

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com
ROXBURY - This past Sunday, a handful of members on both the Wilmington High School boys and girls track teams participated in the 'Last Chance to Qualify Meet' held at the Reggie Lewis Center. This meet is to give athletes one last time to qualify for the state meets which will take place this upcoming weekend, and it also gives the runners, throwers and jumpers another meet to improve on their seed places.

Starting with the boys, Brian Elder and Sean Riley both had the best performances out of both teams as Elder was fourth in the 600-meters with a time of 1:26.17 and Riley was also fourth in the 1,000 meters at 2:42.53.

Aiden McGrath ended up sixth in the 400 at 52.77 and Sam Juergens was 10th in the high jump clearing 5-8.

Other competitors include Sean Lydon taking 13th in the 1,000 meters at 2:45.89, Joe Lydon and Alex Boehm finishing 16th and 18th in the two-mile with times of 10:39.21 and 10:52.25. Richie Stuart was 19th in the 200 at 26.200 seconds, Nehemiah Camara finished 33rd in the same event at 26.20 and then Nolan Kennedy was 36th in the mile at 4:53.86.

At this Saturday morning's (10:30 am) Division 4 Eastern Mass Meet, Greg Adamek is seeded fourth in the mile with his time of 4:31.24, Elder and McGrath are seeded 8th and 9th in the 600 and Pat O'Mahony and Riley are also seeded 8th and 9th but in the 1,000 meters. Also both the 4x400 and 4x800 relay teams are seeded fourth.

On the girls side, the top performance came from the 4x800 relay team of Katherine McLaughlin, Evelyn Miller-Nuzzo, Maggie Bourgeois and

Amber Flynn finished third at 10:30.66.

Three athletes took part in multiple individual events. Kaitlyn Doherty was 9th in the 200 at 28.16 and 11th in the 55-meter hurdles at 9.49. Anja Jensen was 13th in the 400 at 1:05.77 and 55th in the 300 at 48.76 and then Aaliyah Abel was 23rd in the 400 at 1:08.69 and 61st in the 300 at 49.40.

Other competitors include Amanda Broussard, who was seventh in the 400 at 1:03.75, Madison Mulas (11th at 28.55) and Hannah LaVita (19th at 29.74) in the 200, Kari Wells was 28th in the 400 at 1:09.88, Gianna Misuraca was 47th in the mile at 5:56.25, Shea Cushing was 55th in the 1,000 at 3:34.04 and Nokomis Bramantecohen was 59th in the 300 at 48.76.

This weekend at the Divisional Meet, LaVita is seeded fourth in the high jump with a seeded jump of 5-2.

Wildcats still need a point to qualify

FROM PAGE SP5W

fire-wagon hockey - just up and down the ice, both teams pounding away at the goal. We outshot them 12-11 in that period."

On the season, the Wildcats have played in seven games decided by one goal and also have the three ties with Burlington, Melrose and Wakefield.

The 'Cats were defeated by the No. 1 ranked team in the state Arlington, 4-1, and minus the second game against Melrose a 5-1 loss, the team has played with every team, two terrific battles with Burlington, a 4-2 loss to Belmont, a 1-0 loss to Reading, they beat other D1 teams, Winchester, Woburn and Medford, and also played to a 3-2 loss to a strong North Andover team.

"We can skate and play with all of these teams but it's the little things," said Scanlon. "It's the discipline, it's the selfishness and those kinds of things make a big difference."

Wilmington faced Stoneham on Wednesday night with results not known as of presstime, and then will be off for eight days before going to the Breakaway Center in Tewksbury for a 1 pm game against the Redmen on the 20th, which is also the cut-off date for the MIAA tournament.

The seedings will be announced that weekend with games usually starting on the following Tuesday. Should Wilmington get the point, they will be a very crowded, wide-open and extremely competitive Division 2 North Bracket with the likes of Masconomet (14-2-1), Lincoln-Sudbury (13-3-1), North Andover (11-3-5), Tewksbury (12-4-2), Triton (12-3-1), Marblehead (11-3-3) and Boston Latin (10-4-3) and that's just the top half of the bracket (if the season ended today).

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Tewksbury Memorial High School junior Makayla Paige was the winner of the 600-meter race during Saturday's Millrose Games held in New York. The Millrose Games features some of the best runners in the entire country, and Paige won the race and still holds the No. 1 time in the entire country. (courtesy photo/Millrose Games).

Paige wins Millrose Games; No. 1 time in country

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com
NEW YORK/TEWKSBURY - Just when you thought Makayla Paige couldn't possibly elevate her running excellence any further, she once again pulled off the evitable.

On Saturday afternoon, the junior finished as the champion of the 600-meters in the prestigious Millrose Games held in New York. This meet features many of the top runners in the entire country, and Paige not only had a dramatic come from behind win, but she held on to the No. 1 time in the entire country of 1:30.28.

Yes, No. 1!
Trailing for most of the race, including being in fourth place after the 200 and then again at the breakline, Paige had a sensational final kick and

just edged out Victoria VanRiele of New Jersey and Michaela Rose of Virginia, who had times of 1:30.55 and 1:30.90, respectively.

"Going into the race, my thought was to try to be with the first few people, hang on and then just run as fast as I could toward the end," said Paige. "I was hoping to make a move at the break line, but I really couldn't because some of these girls were just so amazing."

After the breakline, Paige was able to move down to lane one. From there she stayed with the competition for the next lap, passing off one runner, before going to the outside where she made her final move on the straightaway beating out VanRiele and Rose.

"That final straightaway, it seemed like we were all

going so slow," Paige said. "It felt like none of us were moving anywhere. I felt like I couldn't move any faster, so I just sprawled to the finish line."

Paige admitted that it was strange to go through the tape as she crossed the finish line. Moments after that, she also said to Taylor Jo of NYRR Millrose Games, that she started to take in the entire experience.

"After the race, I felt pretty awful to be honest," she said to Jo. "But right now I'm pretty excited as I'm realizing what actually happened."

Already this winter season, Paige has won the Millrose Games, set the best times in five different individual events and one relay event in the state of Massachusetts, ran a 2:06.1 anchor leg 800-meter split to help the

Distance Relay Meet team go from sixth place to first at the D3 State Relay Meet, and also placed 11th at the Terrier Invitational at BU, going up against professional runners.

This Friday, she will be back running for Tewksbury as the team will compete in the Division 3 Eastern Mass Meet. Last year she was the D3 and All-State Champion in the 600, including breaking a meet and NE record at the All-State Meet with her career best 1:29.79 time, which came after finishing fifth at the Millrose Games.

"I think (winning at the Millrose Games) is a good sign for the upcoming meets," she said "I went up against amazing runners, so this was a real good experience."

Many personal records highlight the day for Redmen

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com
Although the team didn't score any points - having no individuals or relay teams place in the top six of any events - and finished in last place, Tewksbury Memorial High School girls' track-and-field coach Fran Cusick said that there was still progress made with team's performance at Friday night's Merrimack Valley Conference Championship Meet.

"This was a good day for us," he said. "Out of the 16 athletes that competed in individual events, we had 11 personal records. That's about as good as you can hope for as a coach. Our two highest finishers on the day were Meghan Ostertag in the mile and Jess Smith in the shotput. Both came in seventh place overall and had stellar performances."

Tewksbury was without three of its stronger performers. Junior Makayla Paige, who would have at least scored 20 points herself, was off in New York, competing in the Millrose Games, while Jamie Constantino and Daniela Almeida were both sick.

That left 16 individuals, including Ostertag and Smith, who just missed out on placing. Ostertag was edged out by two runners at the finish line of the mile as she came across at 5:38.27.

"The mile was a strange race," said Cusick. "First of all, there were only seven athletes in Meghan's heat, which is a very small number for a championship race. Second, the top seed and eventual champion, the spectacularly named Asalia Mirambeaux (of Lowell) has this effective but frustrating strategy of running the first half of

the races at a pedestrian pace and then ramping things up significantly in the second half of the race. It's arguably smart racing, but it tends to lead to slower times, which is exactly what happened in this race as the entire pack of seven runners came through the 800 in about 2:54 seconds, which is a 5:48 pace and that's slow.

"Meghan was right in the pack and though she's traditionally been far more successful running even splits she ran a great second half of the race to finish 5th in her heat. Her 800 (half-mile) splits were roughly: 2:56/2:41, which is great. She raced well and was really engaged in what she was doing the whole time. Unfortunately, there were two girls that finished ahead of her in the first heat, so she just missed out on scoring."

Smith tossed 30-10 to finish seventh in the shot put.

The two relay teams also just missed out on placing. The 4x200 relay group of Ashlyn Nawn, Carrina Barron, Maria Da Silva and Noelia Cura finished seventh at 1:55.74 and then Da Silva joined Emma Jensen, Olivia Millsbaugh and Julia Barletta to place eighth in the 4x400 with a time of 4:39.34.

The other top ten finish came from Elyse O'Leary, who was ninth in the two-mile at 13:24.27.

Barron also competed in two individual events as she was tenth in the long jump at 14-07.75 and 17th in the 55-meter dash at 8.62 seconds. Millsbaugh was also 12th in the 600 (1:52.80), Cura was 13th in the 300 (45.77), Jensen was 17th in the 55-meter hurdles (10.28), Da Silva was 21st in the 300 (47.89) and Nawn was 23rd in the 55-meter dash (8.29).



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Big week for two Shawsheen Tech teams



Chris Melo handles the puck for the Shawsheen Tech Boys Hockey team during a recently played home game. (photo by Bob DeChiara).

Boys Hockey team continues great run - captures third straight title

By MIKE IPPOLITO
Sports Correspondent

sports@yourtowncrier.com

BILLERICA - Early in the season, there was no telling what direction the Shawsheen Tech Boys Hockey season was going to go.

Expectations were high for the two-time defending CAC champs heading into the season, but an early season 2-1 loss to Rockport in a game where the Rams played poorly put their quest for a third straight title in jeopardy almost before the season even got started.

But this group of Rams were not going to be denied, as they never suffered another league loss all season, and with a 1-0-1 record this past week, the Rams wrapped up that third consecutive title, improving to 11-6-1 on the season and 8-1-1 in the CAC.

The Rams started their week with a thrilling 4-4 tie against Essex Tech on Thursday night at the Hallenborg Arena and wrapped it up with a 7-1 rout of Minuteman on the road on Saturday to clinch the title.

Of course, any league title is a thrill for the coaches and players, but this year did have a bit of a special meaning for Shawsheen coach Chuck Baker and his players.

"They are all good, but the kids did respond well even though they made things interesting last week vs Essex who played us very tough," Baker said. "Sometimes bumps in the road, like the loss to Rockport can come back

to haunt you. We did not allow that to happen, but kept it interesting."

The Rams had to battle right to the end to earn their tie against Essex, picking up a key point in their quest for the title, while also denying Essex, who was right behind them in the standings, the opportunity to pick up an extra point and close the gap in the CAC.

Senior forward Nate Silva of Tewksbury finished with one goal and two assists, while senior goalie Kam Neault of Tewksbury made 20 saves to help Shawsheen earn the tie. The Rams also got goals from senior forward Danny McGaffigan of Wilmington, junior Anthony Papa and senior defenseman Chance Fitzgerald. Fitzgerald's goal was the equalizer, coming in dramatic fashion with six seconds left in the game.

Essex took a 4-3 lead late in the third period, but the Rams were not done. With time winding down the Rams called a timeout and with about 14 seconds left, Essex attempted to score into the Rams empty net but missed, and instead got hit with an icing call, forcing a face-off in their end, giving the Rams one more chance.

Shawsheen won the draw, and got the puck back to Fitzgerald, who took the shot from the point through traffic and buried it.

"It was a great battle and it had a tournament atmosphere in the rink. The crowd was great and both teams played with

intensity up and down the ice," Baker said. "It was great to get the win. Hopefully the team will take the energy from that game into the remaining games and the post season."

Shawsheen also got fine performances from junior forward Sean Murphy of Tewksbury, who had two assists, senior forward JJ Thibert of Wilmington who also had two assists, and sophomore Ryan Dusablan of Wilmington who had an assist.

The Rams clinched the title on Saturday with a win over Minuteman. This one was a little less dramatic as the Rams rolled to a 7-2 victory led by three goals and two assists from Papa, two goals from Thibert and single goals from Murphy and Jonah Varallo. Varallo's goal was the first of his varsity career.

Shawsheen also got four assists Silva, two assists from DJ Ducharme and individual assists from Fitzgerald, McGaffigan, Aidan Sullivan and DJ Williams.

Junior goalie Jared Palmer of Tewksbury played two periods in net, while sophomore Thomas Dalton of Wilmington played the third period and made four saves.

The Rams will be back on the ice on Thursday night for their final home game of the season when they host non-league rival Gardner, before wrapping up their regular season next Tuesday night on the road against Fitchburg at the Wallace Civic Center.

Boys Hoop team qualifies for the tournament, improve to 11-5

By MIKE IPPOLITO
Sports Correspondent

sports@yourtowncrier.com

BILLERICA - It might sound hard to believe now, but just a couple of weeks ago, the Shawsheen Tech Boys Basketball team appeared to be reeling, and their season seemed to be slipping away. After a fantastic start to the season, the Rams went through a three game losing streak, dropping their record to 7-5 on the season, and seemed to be in danger of dropping below the .500 mark and seeing their chance at the post season slip away.

But that tough stretch now seems like a distant memory, as Rams have turned things around in a big way recently, winning four of their last five games, including going 3-0 this past week to clinch a spot in the post season, with an 11-6 record on the campaign.

All three wins for the Rams this week came over CAC opponents, as they improved to 10-4 in the league. The biggest win of the week for the Rams came last Friday night on the road over Whittier when the Rams held on for a 44-43 victory for what at the time was their tenth win of the season, clinching a tournament berth.

Shawsheen led 25-16 at the half and 34-25 at the end of three quarters before Whittier mounted a furious fourth quarter rally.

"That was a really good team win," said first year Shawsheen coach Joe Gore. "We played a very good first half, but give Whittier credit they went on a run in the fourth quarter. It was their senior night, and they weren't going to give up. But we did enough to hold on for

the win."

As Gore pointed out, the win over Whittier was in many ways a microcosm of the Rams season.

"The good thing is we are finding ways to win, however, we need to improve on playing a complete four quarters of basketball," Gore said. "We haven't really done that all year, and that is something we need to work on before the post season starts."

Shawsheen was led on the night by the efforts of junior guard Jeremy Perez of Tewksbury. Perez finished with nine points, ten assists and seven steals, and showed tremendous hustle throughout the contest. Once again, his performance was a microcosm of what he had done all season for the Rams.

"Jeremy is the quarterback of our team and he has just been terrific for us," Gore said. "Without Jeremy I am not really sure what the make up of our team would look like. This was a great example of what he has been doing all season. His stats haven't been jaw dropping, but without him, I am not sure we would have a chance to win."

Senior Santino Garofalo of Tewksbury also had a strong game for the Rams, posting a double-double of ten points and 12 rebounds.

The Rams had a bit of an easier time on Monday night as they rolled to a 56-40 win over Northeast. Shawsheen actually struggled in the early going of this one, leading just 23-18 at the half, but a big second half gave them the comfortable win, improving them to 11-6 on the season.

"We didn't play our best basketball," Gore said. "We got off to a slow start,

but we came out in the second half and played some good Shawsheen basketball. I liked the way we responded in the second half, but again I would like to see us have that kind of effort for four quarters."

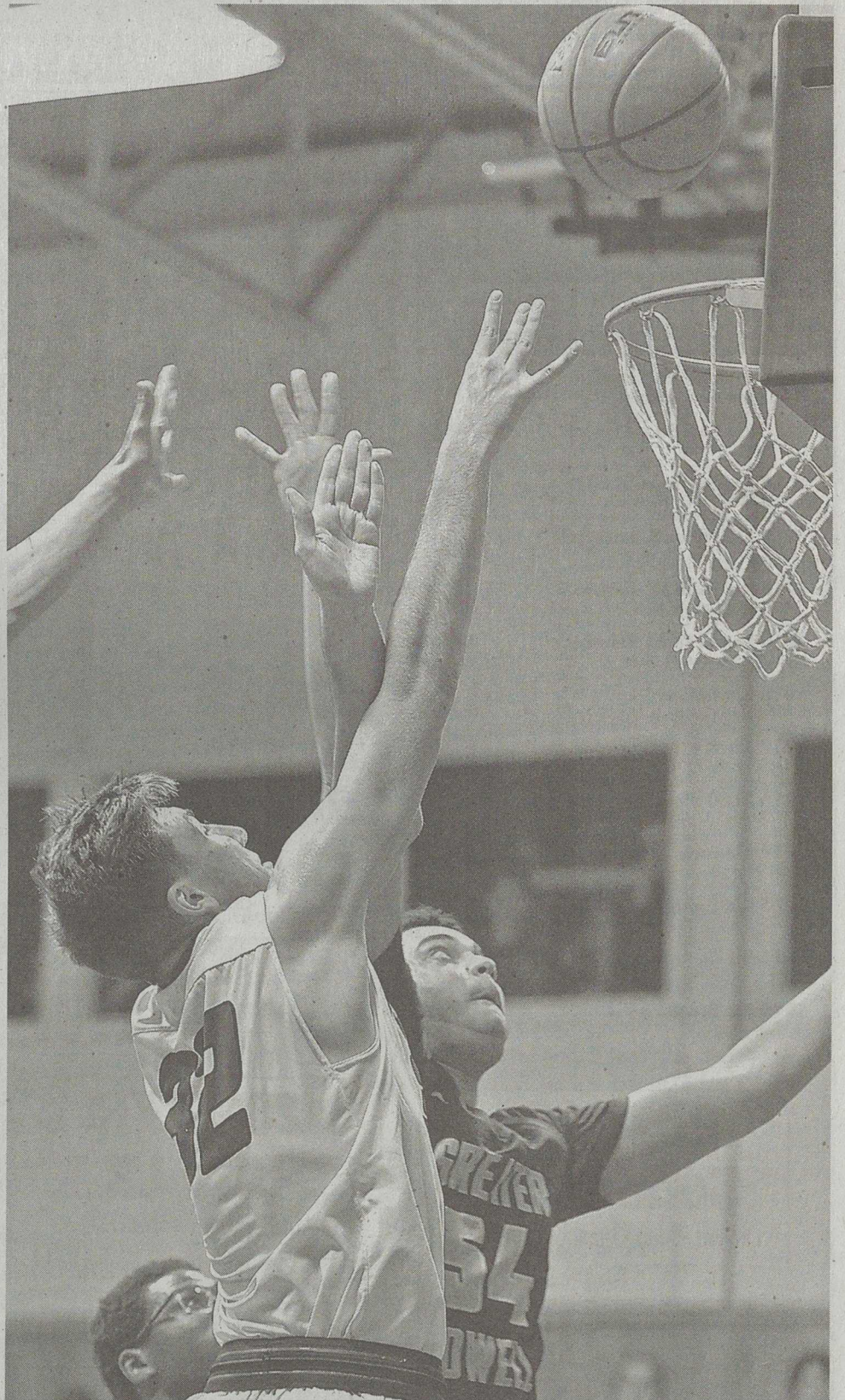
Senior Jake Tyler led the Rams with 12 points, as did Garofalo, while freshman Mavrick Bourdeau had ten points to round out the well balanced scoring attack.

Shawsheen had begun their week last Wednesday with a 50-47 win over Essex Tech, getting 21 points from Tyler and ten points and 12 rebounds from Garofalo.

There is still work to be done in the state tournament of course, but Gore is very proud of what his team has accomplished to this point, especially after losing several seniors off of last year's squad.

"It was awesome to see them qualify on Friday night," Gore said. "We have been able to build a really good chemistry over the past few weeks. We were struggling there for a while, and we went through a rough stretch, but we watch film two or three times a week, and we realized that the mistakes we were making were correctable. It is a credit to these players that they have worked hard to improve, and they have really developed a great bond as we get ready for the post season."

The Rams will wrap up their regular season with a pair of home games this upcoming week, as they will host CAC rival Greater Lawrence on Friday night, and then wrap up their regular season against non-league rival Chelmsford next Tuesday night.



Shawsheen's Santino Garafalo of Tewksbury tries to get after a loose ball at the basket during an earlier season boys basketball game. (photo by Jim Vaiknoras).



Aydan Churchill stops in his tracks on the ice for the Shawsheen Tech Boys Hockey team during an earlier season home game. (photo by Bob DeChiara).

Boston Herald D3 North Hockey Poll

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Bedford (13-2-2) | 6. Methuen (5-5-4) |
| 2. Cambridge (12-2-4) | 7. Essex Tech (7-3-5) |
| 3. Newton South (9-7-1) | 8. Shawsheen (11-7-1) |
| 4. Rockport (9-3-3) | 9. Latin Academy (9-5-2) |
| 5. Watertown (8-5-2) | 10. Hamilton-Wenham (6-6-2) |

Shawsheen Tech Sports Round-Up

Wrestlers tune up for this weekend's D1 North Sectional Meet

By MIKE IPPOLITO
Sports Correspondent

sports@yourtowncrier.com
With the post season tournaments rapidly approaching, the Shawsheen Tech Wrestling team had a great tuneup for the type of competition they will be facing in the coming weeks when they competed in the Division 1 State Coaches Dual Meet Tournament this past Saturday at Westford Academy.

The Rams went 1-1 on the day, routing Needham by a score of 59-12, and narrowly losing to perennial state powerhouse Springfield Central by a score of 35-33. With their 1-1 effort, the Rams are now 27-3 on the season.

While the win over Needham was certainly impressive, the narrow loss to Springfield Central may have said even more about just how good Shawsheen has been this season. Springfield entered the match ranked third in the state while the Rams came in ranked sixth, and both teams showed why are ranked so high, with the match coming down to the final contest and Springfield narrowly escaping with the victory.

"We felt like we had them beat, but we came up just a little short," Shawsheen coach Mark Donovan said. "They are a very good team, a top three team in the state but so are we, and we showed it. We were ahead pretty much the whole match, but we could not hold on."

The match could really not have been any closer, with each team winning seven matches on the day, with the only difference being that Springfield had one more pin on the day than the Rams.

Winners on the day for the Rams included Austin Dube at 120 pounds and Frank Foti at 126 pounds, both by pin. Other winners included Devin DeLuca (132), Justin Merrifield (138), Diondre Turner of Wilmington (152), Alex Newcomb (170) and Aidan Leffler of Tewksbury (182).

While the loss was disappointing, Donovan was certainly not disappointed with his team's performance, either on Saturday or in recent weeks.

"We are wrestling really well right now," Donovan said. "Teams know what they are going to get when they face us and we are respected all over Massachusetts. We might not win all the time, but we come and battle. That is not about me, it is not about my coaching style. It is about these kids all buying in. They came in on Sunday and ran five miles, and they do that every Sunday. They have bonded together and had a great season."

The Rams will look to continue that great season this Saturday when they travel to Methuen High School for the Division 1 North Sectional Tournament. As always, the Rams will be one of the teams to beat at the tournament, and Donovan

will be looking for them to live up to their expectations.

"We have 14 kids going to sectionals, and I expect to bring 14 kids to the state tournament the next week," Donovan said. "That is what I expect every year. It doesn't usually work out that way, but that is what you have to shoot for."

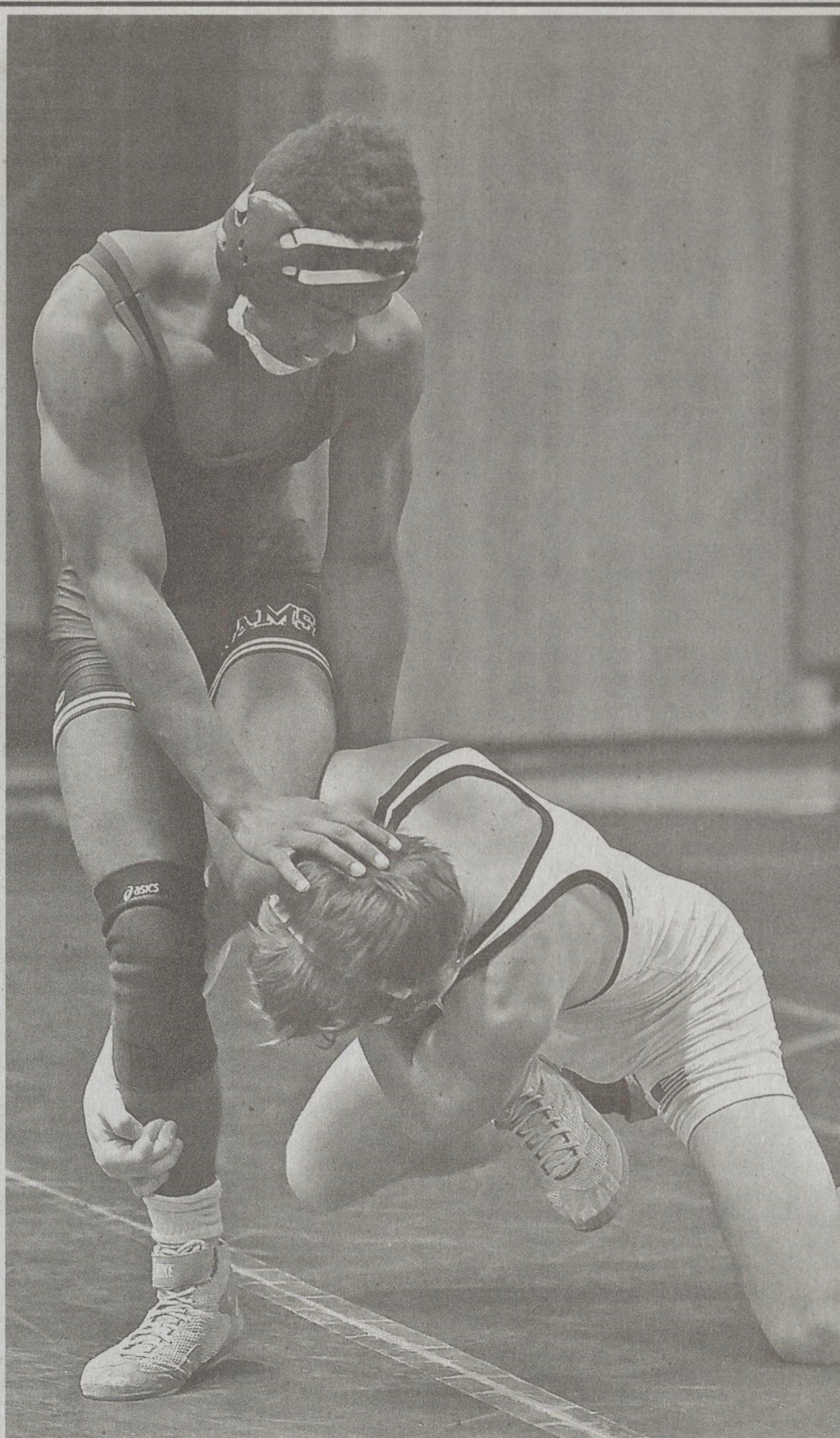
CHEERLEADING

The Shawsheen Cheerleading team kicked off their competition season in great fashion this past weekend, taking first place in the Grand Championships held at Central Catholic High School. The Rams defeated ten other schools to earn their first place finish at the varsity level, scoring 6.7 points higher than the second place team.

The Rams performance in the competition was all the more impressive considering the adversity they had faced in the days leading up to the event.

"We had a tough week leading up to our competition," Shawsheen coach Samantha Cacciola said. "We unfortunately lost a teammate due to unforeseen circumstances, had one girl out with the flu at the beginning of the week, and had to pull up a cheerleader from junior varsity to compete on varsity."

And speaking of the JV squad, they had a big weekend of their own. Despite having to change



At 145-pounds, Diondre Turner matches up with Whittier Tech's Ethan Calderwood during an earlier season wrestling meet. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

RAMS PG SP10W

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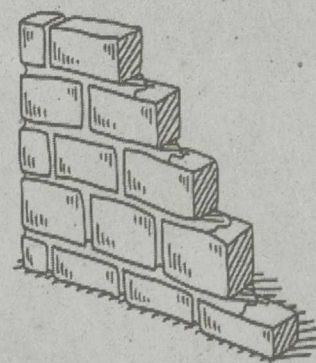
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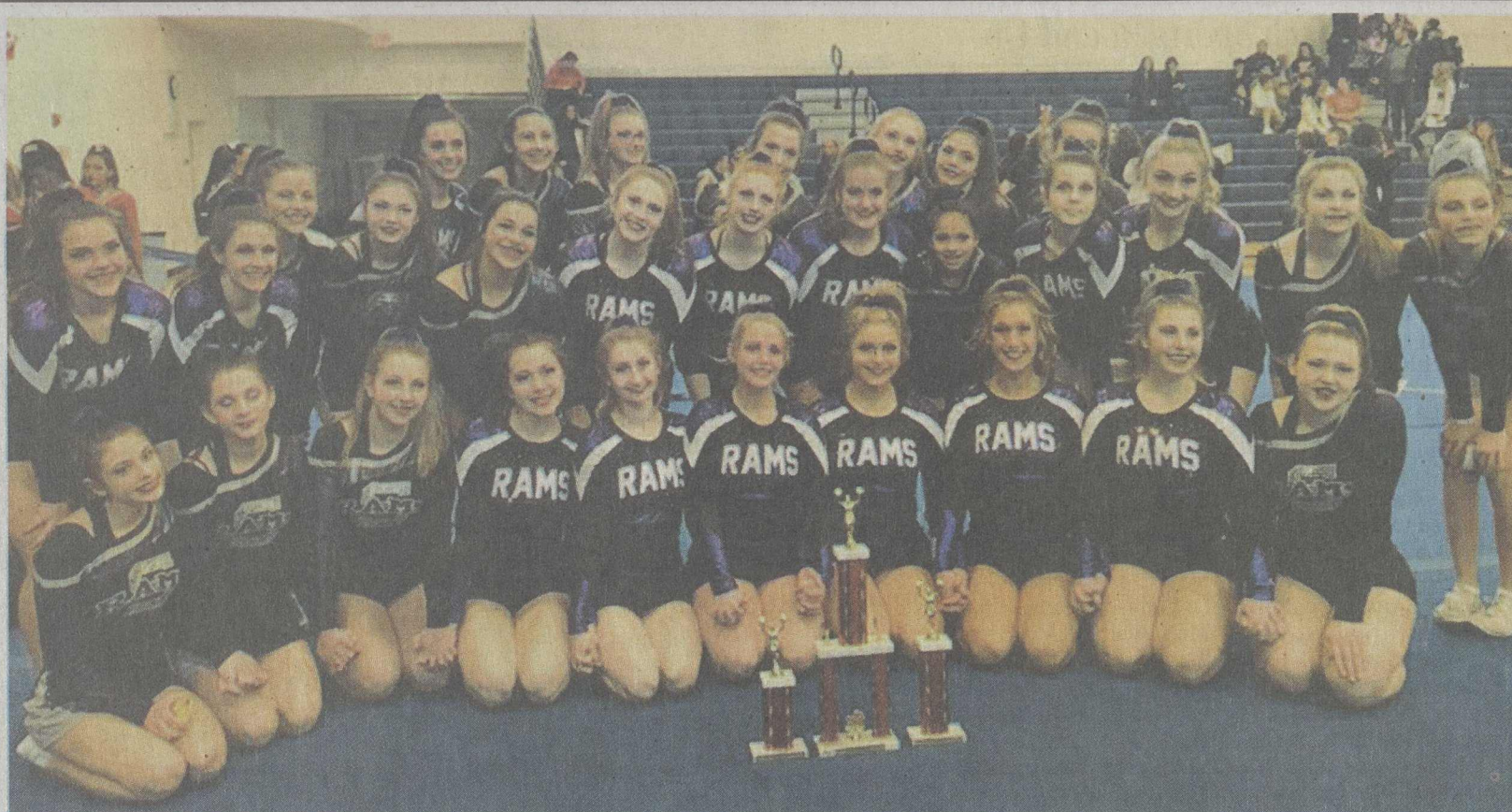
NORTH ANDOVER, Mass. - The Saint Anselm College men's ice hockey team dropped a crucial Northeast-10 Conference contest to Stonehill College on Tuesday night, 6-4, at Lawler Rink on the campus of Merrimack College.

The loss sends the Hawks to an even 11-11-2 overall record and a 6-6-2 mark in NE10 play. The Skyhawks improve to 8-10-4 overall and 5-5-3 in conference play. Saint Anselm hits the road to take on Franklin Pierce on Friday, Feb. 14 for a 7:30 p.m. tilt.

Stonehill struck first early in the first period with a goal from Mike Seoane, but it only took the Hawks three minutes to return the favor with the first of three power-play goals on the night for Saint Anselm. Sophomore Anthony Iacullo (Barrington, Ill.) sent the puck from the left circle for a one-timer blast by senior Mike Ferraro (Northbridge, Mass.), netting the opening tally for the Hawks.

Stonehill pulled away from Saint Anselm with three straight goals between the middle of the first period and six minute mark of the second period, thanks to markers from Charles Page, Ryan Meade of Tewksbury, and Jack Hall. The Hawks cut the lead in half with their second power-play goal of the game. Junior John Femia (Canton, Mass.) received a pass from junior Matt Chisholm (Scituate, Mass.) in the slot at the 7:42 mark. The Skyhawks increased the pressure and added two goals late in the second stanza to finish the period with a 6-2 cushion.

Trailing by four, the Hawks attempted a furious comeback in the final stanza but only managed to muster up two more goals before the final horn sounded.



The Shawsheen Tech Cheerleaders captured the Grand Championships held at Central Catholic. (courtesy photo).

Rams Cheerleaders take title

FROM PG SP9W

their routine to work around due to missing a teammate but still managed to win second place in the JV Division.

"It was a great first competition. Varsity had a wonderful performance and really showed their heart and enthusiasm on the mat," Cacciola said. "It is so rewarding coaching a group of such hard working girls. I absolutely love this job and again I cannot wait to compete again this weekend."

The members of the varsity team, coached Samantha Cacciola are Teagan McDonald - Captain, Alanna MacMillan - Captain, Jessica Saunders - Captain, Hailey Donovan - Captain, Bianca Garofalo, Ella Reardon, Emmalee Sansoucie, Haley Andon, Jade Kim, Jenna Parker, Maddy Allen, Paige Mercier, Raeanna Dallaire-Boogaard and Victoria Jensen.

The members of the JV squad, coached by Jillian James are Sara Buckley, Karmella Humphrey, Alyssa Cavanaugh, Emalie Cruz, Ashlynn Deveau, Sophie Brewer, Kaylee Fone, Meghan Aprile, Emma Fitzgerald, Monica Scabin, Bre Chaires, Tiffany Barrera-Perry, Jaelin Mitchell, Chloe Gaglione, Alexia Bonilla, Hailey Wiitala.

SWIMMING

The incredible season of the Shawsheen Tech 200-meter freestyle relay team continued this past weekend as the foursome of Aiden Singh, Zach Morris of Wilmington, Derek Costello of Wilmington and Damien Hadden of Tewksbury finished 32nd at the North Sectional Meet on Saturday, finishing in a school record time of 1:39.87, shattering their own previous school record of 1:41.11.

The time was good enough to qualify the group for this weekend's state meet.

Where's the Action?

Day	Date	Sport	Opponent	Time
Wilmington High Sports				
Thursday	February 13	V Girls/Boys Hoop	vs Melrose	5:15/7pm
Saturday	February 15	V Wrestling	at D3 Sect - Wake	10:00 am
Saturday	February 15	B/G Track	at D4 States - RLC	10:30 am
Saturday	February 15	V Girls Hockey	at Watertown	12:20 pm
Sunday	February 16	V Girls Hoop	vs Pent at STM	2:00 pm
Monday	February 17	V Boys Hoop	at Triton	5:30 pm
Monday	February 17	V Girls Hoop	vs GD/Med at STM	TBA
Wednesday	February 19	V Boys Hoop	at St. Joe's Prep	5:30 pm
Wednesday	February 19	V Girls Hockey	vs Stoneham	8:00 pm
Thursday	February 20	V Boys Hockey	at Tewksbury	1:00 pm
Tewksbury High Sports				
Thursday	February 13	V Boys Hoop	vs Billerica	7:00 pm
Friday	February 14	B/G Track	at D3 State Meet - RLC	4:30 pm
Friday	February 14	V Girls Hoop	at Lawrence	7:00 pm
Saturday	February 15	V Wrestling	D2 Sectionals at Masco	10:00 am
Saturday	February 15	V Girls Hockey	vs Westford	7:00 pm
Monday	February 17	V Girls Hockey	vs Shrews at NBPT	3:00 pm
Monday	February 17	V Boys Hoop	at Tyngsboro	5:00 pm
Wednesday	February 19	V Girls Hockey	vs Masco at NBPT	3:00 pm
Wednesday	February 19	V Boys Hoop	at Reading	7:00 pm
Wednesday	February 19	V Boys Hockey	vs Haverhill	7:20 pm
Thursday	February 19	V Boys Hockey	vs Wilmington	1:00 pm
Shawsheen Tech Sports				
Thursday	February 13	V Boys Hockey	vs Gardner	7:10 pm
Friday	February 14	V Girls Hoop	at Gr. Lawrence	5:30 pm
Friday	February 14	V Boys Hoop	vs Gr. Lawrence	7:00 pm
Saturday	February 15	V Wrestling	at D1 Sect - MHS	10:00 am
Saturday	February 15	V Girls Hockey	vs Burlington	11:00 am
Sunday	February 16	V Swimming	at D2 States	TBA
Monday	February 17	V Girls Hoop	at St. Joe's Prep	6:00 pm
Tuesday	February 18	V Boys Hockey	at Fitchburg	6:30 pm
Tuesday	February 18	V Boys Hoop	vs Chelmsford	7:00 pm
Wednesday	February 19	V Girls Hoop	vs Lowell Catholic	6:00 pm

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